

DIARY

A Joan of Arc on the 8.22

Old pupils writing to me (out of the blue or, in some cases, the black) usually sound much older than I've ever managed to be. They've had several marriages, a dizzying number of jobs, or overcome shattering reversals of fortune. I have a general impression as of persons being shipwrecked in some remote part of the Pacific, falsely imprisoned in Rio de Janeiro, and swindled in a complex fashion in Brisbane. They are now complacently settled in Potters Bar. I'd had such a letter the other day when I caught sight of this girl on the train. (The usage as in "this girl" is one I never succeeded in stamping out among those I taught, and late in the day I find myself rather fond of it. Who taught who?)

The letter was from a middle-aged man with the usual elaborate biography who must have been one of the first Teddy Boys. I think of him in terms of the apoplexy he caused in our unhelpfully humourless deputy head, who came close to exploding - or perhaps he actually exploded?

Memory grows dim - when Jessop explained that his haircut was known as a DA. "If you were square", he said, with a gravity impudently matching the deputy head's own, "you could translate that as District Attorney, but really, sir, it means Duck's Arse".

I was thinking of him and of the long history of adolescent disguise (even I caused a seizure or two at school, in the polite 'thirties, by wearing a red tie) when I heard this cheerful chuckle coming from across the carriage.

Her face was chalk-white, her hair was an upstreaming bush of jet black. Her long coat was black, and she wore high boots, with straps. She was thin and pale, in a particular London way.

like a minor messenger of death. The problem, in terms of her qualifying for that morbid role, lay in another London quality, in which she

resembled my correspondent of that morning. She was most perkily buoyant. Faced with Death himself, dressed much as she was, she'd have made a joke about bones. "That's what comes of going without lunch, luv!" She was talking - a grinning and chortling matter, largely - with a friend, who was in quite another style, based on the wish to resemble a burning bush or the last moments of Joan of Arc.

We got out at the same stop and I was behind her as she made her macabre way along the platform. Extraordinary! There went a living *memento mori* on two black-leather legs; and every step she took spoke of the most tremendous high spirits.

A difficult sort of professor

I'd just interviewed Gillian Tindall for *The World of Books* about her very good study of Rosamond Lehmann, and now was to interview A L Rowse about his prefaces to Shakespeare.

This activity does sometimes require painful switches of topic; but then, I have been a schoolmaster, hurrying from classroom to classroom; and it does remarkably mean that I am paid

to read and talk about books. On the whole, they're books that seem to us, in this corner of the BBC's External Services, worth reading: there would appear to be small point in flying to Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Zimbabwe and elsewhere, taped programmes about quite uncommendable books.

So I was a little taken aback when Dr Rowse said: "What sort of chap are you, eh? Are you going to tear me to pieces?" It was not what I had in mind. I'd thought only of seeing Dr Rowse talking about Shakespeare: throwing at him some of his own excellent propositions, for example, that Shakespeare was the most historically-minded of dramatists, and that his work was marked by great patience with "ordinary human foolishness".

I was no sort of professor at all, I said - an interloper merely. I had enjoyed much in his book. Well, he was very readable, Dr Rowse asserted. The secret lay in his putting so much of himself, anecdotes of his scholarly inquiries, into the writing. I said I understood that - not remarking that I was a helpless anecdotalist myself. Well, he said, he was glad to know I wasn't one of those difficult professors: and we began the interview, which flowed most satisfactorily.

As we left the studio I said I'd looked along my shelves that morning for his *Cornish Childhood*, wanting to ask him to sign it: but clearly someone had borrowed - or stolen - it. Dr Rowse said well, he'd brought one of the latest in his Contemporary Shakespeare Series (published by the University Press of America: 11 titles now available) to give me: here it was, *Richard II*. We parted cheerfully.

And then I opened *Richard II* and was converted instantly into a difficult professor. Dr Rowse's argument in this series is that "superfluous difficulties" of text stand between the reader, or theatre goer or viewer, and a happy appreciation of Shakespeare. Many of these difficulties can be removed with no damage whatever to the plays. Looking for an example, I turned to John of Gaunt's great dying speech: which begins, in the unimportant text:

"I have been studying how I may compare
This prison where I live unto the world;
And for because the world is populous,
And here is not a creature but myself,
I cannot do it.

Dr Rowse replaces "And for because" with "considering". And again one has to say that the original offers no real difficulty, and that the word "considering" has a lack of force that makes it no replacement for the strong sound of "And for because".

In Dr Rowse's revised text, this

reads: "I think I am a prophet new inspired... And two responses occur immediately. First, that "methinks" can have caused confusion to no one. We may not use the term today, but the meaning remains perfectly clear. Second, the trouble with "I think" is that it has become, in many contexts, a weak phrase: doubt hovers over it. If you say, "I think I am a prophet new inspired", there lurks in the wings the balancing remark, "But then, of course, I may be mistaken." If there were an equivalent, in modern terms, it would surely be something like "I believe".

In any case, meanings and nuances aside, when Gaunt leaps into that great speech the word "methinks", a great thick sound, acts as a tremendous springboard. "I think" is not easily a sound to launch yourself with.

I turned to that other speech in which Richard, about to be murdered, muses on his captivity:

"How sweet music is
When time is broke and no proportion kept:
And that Dr Rowse replaces "broke", a stark sound in which that previous breakage is to be heard and felt, with "broken", a muffled form.

The general truth being surely that great poetry or prose is not a matter of meaning alone. It's a matter also of size and colour of the sounds made. How a thing is said is deeply part of what is said. We cannot touch a thread in Shakespeare without spoiling the whole design.

So there I was, 10 minutes after Dr Rowse had left. Dr Rowse happily confident that he'd been in the presence of a sympathizer, transformed (as far as this corner of his work was concerned) into an antagonist. And I felt all the worse for basing my antagonism on a gift.

Beware the Greeks when they come with gifts! Beware BBC interviewers when they accept them!



A L Rowse... 'superfluous difficulties' of text stand between the reader and appreciation of Shakespeare.

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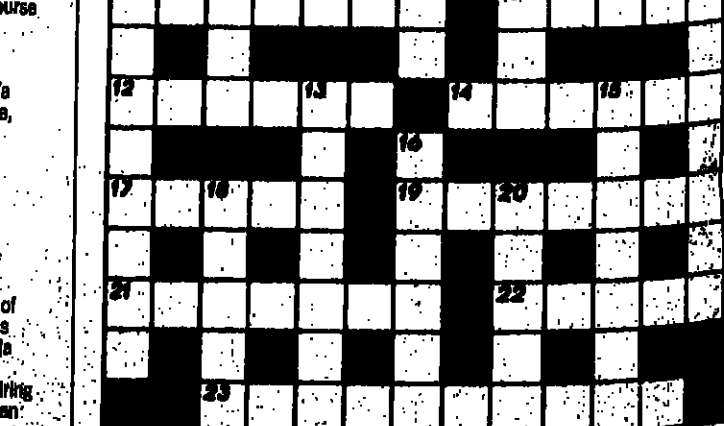
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Edward Blisshen

No 189 CROSSWORD by Rufus



Across

- 1 Appropriate change of accent (4)
- 2 Language of a quarter of Parisians (3)
- 3 Money still to be paid on a watch (7)
- 4 Bell's - talking - in art's fancy (7)
- 5 A flash of brilliance (10)
- 6 Boat, of burden given first aid (6)
- 7 Type of car to hold only two (6)
- 8 It's said in France to be the same (5)
- 9 A heavenly intervention? (7)
- 10 An excuse can appear so naive (7)

Down

- 1 Cries meaning about in boots (5)
- 2 An unlicensed revolver (5)
- 3 Underground route (6)
- 4 Term that's musical or legal, perhaps (7)
- 5 Display of no interest (5)
- 6 Community payment (10)
- 7 Their union offers security (4,3,3)

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THE TIMES

Educational Supplement

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Political demo school in model role

by Adriana Caudrey

The London school which has been criticized for involving young children in political demonstrations features in a booklet as a shining example of how to teach social studies at primary level.

This disclosure comes days after the school, William Patten Infants, in Stoke Newington, came under scrutiny from the Inner London Education Authority, following an interview in

The TES in which Ms Sandra Shmidt, the head teacher, expounded her radical political teaching philosophy. The picture in the booklet shows staff and children from the school participating in an anti-National Front demonstration. The ILEA has reprimanded staff at the school for taking part in such activities in school time. The case provoked a heated response at the Young Conservatives

Conference in Bournemouth. Mr John Selwyn Gummer, Tory party chairman, described the school's recent walk-out in support of miners on strike as "little children taken out on the streets for the sake of Arthur Scargill." An ILEA spokesman said that for inspectors to have included the picture, they must have been satisfied that it was school work which had been approached in a balanced way.

Teachers set to step up sanctions as I.e.a.s put pressure on heads

NAHT bows to demands for names in pay action

by Richard Garner

The National Association of Head Teachers this week sent guidelines to its members telling them to comply with any requests from chief education officer for the names of teachers taking pay action.

At the same time it acknowledges that some local education authorities are acting "nonsensically" in asking for names of those refusing to do lunchtime supervision as well as other duties.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the NAHT, said local branches should seek clarification and negotiations on local authority instructions if there was any doubt about them but he made it clear that NAHT condemned this year's industrial action and did not support the teachers' pay claim.

Teachers' action over their pay claim - for at least £1,200 for every teacher - will be stepped up after this week's half-term break, with the National Union of Teachers balloting members in selected areas on three-day strike action - set to begin on February 26. The National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers has instructed all its members to take half-day strike action on the same day and plans to pull out members by 10 i.e.s. the following week (page six).

Teachers in further and higher education have agreed to discuss both pay and conditions with the employers over the next six weeks in the hope of reaching agreement on a package which would include a single salary scale for college lecturers - replacing the existing lecturer one and lecturer two grades. It is claiming a 20.5 per cent rise.

The Association of University Teachers, too, lodged its pay claim this week. It wants a pay review to be set up - with an interim award this year designed to help the lower paid.

In one authority this week headteachers have been told by the NAHT that if they consider lunchtime supervision inadequate they should walk out of their schools or shut them down, in defiance of the I.e.a.s. determination to keep its school meals service going.

Some members of the NAHT in St Helens, Lancashire, have already walked out because of fears that extra ancillary staff - hired by the Labour-controlled authority to overcome its lunchtime difficulties - may be unable to keep order at lunchtime.

Mr John Wootton, NAHT executive member, warned that more were likely to follow suit when the NAS/UTW joins the NUT in pay sanctions.

The authority said this week it had recruited 22 extra ancillary workers to work in 13 schools - and that only one school had closed down at lunchtime because of the teachers' action.

It has written to its headteachers warning them that it considers they may be breaching their contracts by seeking to close schools at lunchtime - and offering to indemnify them from any claim for damages in respect of any shortcomings in the supervisory arrangements.

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Talking about television

What every teacher should know

The curriculum, the projects and the programmes
Pages 30-31, 37-46



Sweeping changes some sixth-formers at St Albans' schools have been hired to keep schools clean because Hertfordshire has had problems recruiting adults to do the work since it cut pay rates for both school cleaners and dinner ladies. As disclosed last week, one school in the county is already paying sixth-formers to serve school dinners.

Schools in St Albans and Harpenden have employed pupils as cleaners for some time, but the numbers have increased since adult pay rates went down in January 1983.

Only at one school has the head decided not to use pupils as cleaners. Some 12 county secondary schools employ pupils at an hourly rate of £1.25 for 16-year-olds and £1.39 for 17-year-olds. Before bonus rates were cut the adult rate was £2.10 an hour, but it has gone down to £1.79.

Mr John Toomey, the divisional organizer for the National Union of Public Employees, said the union did not know pupils were being employed as cleaners. "It is something we would want stopped. Schools are there to educate, not exploit."

A spokesman for the divisional education office said parents had been consulted over pupils working. The arrangement was mutually beneficial to pupils and head teachers.

Geraldine Hackett

Welsh exam body upstages 16-plus

by Mark Jackson

A radically reformed version of O level-CSE which goes far beyond the Education Secretary's new 16-plus was approved in principle by the Welsh Joint Education Committee last week.

It is the first step towards a system of secondary certification which will challenge the dominance of conventional academic examinations, and this week the committee began discussing a similar approach to A levels.

The new approach has evolved initially to meet the needs of the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative in which many schools are substituting learning by practical experience for conventional academic instruction.

The schools believe their new methods will enable many non-academic pupils to reach the same standards of knowledge and performance as the academically-inclined and want a form of assessment which puts them on the same footing.

The new version of the 16-plus being offered by the Welsh board, who already run combined O level-CSE syllabuses, will be based on modules rather than single subjects. Written tests will form around 20 per cent of the overall assessment.

An example of one of the new cross-modular syllabuses is "modern media systems" which includes TV production, photography, information systems, graphic arts, and sound broadcasting.

Both the examining body and the local authorities involved - Ceredigion and Gwynedd - insist that they are not diluting the standards of knowledge and understanding required in any way but simply using a more realistic and sophisticated way of measuring it.

Mr Peter Davies, of the WJEC, said that the new syllabuses would be very much along the lines of CSE mode 3, but aimed now at the whole ability range on the assumption that they are following a modular curriculum.

Mr Davies says that it would be several years before the committee could hope to introduce the new A level syllabuses and that it recognized that it will have considerably more difficulty in getting them accepted because of the implications for university entrance.

Geraldine Hackett

Valley high

Unpublished government figures show a dramatic improvement in Welsh secondary schools over the past three years.

Books in class

English

Arts/Books

Ray Foster on the BBC's attempts to grapple with the Irish crisis; Sheila MacLeod on five days at the Arvon Foundation;

Margaret Mann on school governing bodies; Philippa Toomey on Rosamond Lehmann; Robin Buss on the history of television; Children's literature; Lingo

EXTRA

Video and Film: British Film Year and a new programme director at the NPT - what do they mean for education? Plus TV and video in the classroom

37-44

Stop the clock and keep talking

How close to some sort of an agreement on how to set up simultaneous negotiations on pay and conditions did the two sides in the Burnham Committee get, before they broke up in deadlock at ten past one on Tuesday morning?

This is the question which has to be asked and answered before anyone can accept the prospect of disruption by the teachers and retribution by the employers, with the unfortunate pupils (and their parents) caught in the crossfire.

Even now it is extremely difficult to believe that the possibilities of negotiation have been exhausted. Few negotiators are at their brightest or most ingenious in the early hours. Both sides were intensely frustrated by the way the discussion had gone. There must be a strong case for calling the two sides together, informally at first, with the object of having another go at the procedural issue which defeated them on Tuesday. Of course, it is true that finding a procedure by which the real underlying questions can be tackled is only a beginning: an agreement on procedure does not by any means guarantee an agreement on the substance. But, for heaven's sake, the present pay settlement still has six weeks to run. There is time for negotiators to negotiate, to explore the trade-offs, to test reactions and probe formal positions. Maybe the talks will still end in failure, but both sides owe it to the schools and to the public not to accept deadlock till they have reached a deeper understanding of each other's position.

To say this, however, is not to deny that both sides seem to have made a genuine effort to find some answers earlier this week. There were times when it seemed there was a shared recognition of one central fact: that there can be no way forward unless talks can be resumed on a package which combines pay and conditions - a package, in fact, which can accommodate the reasonable demands of State, each of whom has legitimate, but different, interests in pay, conditions and in the case of Sir Keith, the periodical assessment of teaching staff.



Fred Jarvis, NUT general secretary



Philip Merridale, leader of the management side

If this were accepted, the only immediate question would be how to get business-like talks under way. The management side backed a suggestion that the chairman of the Burnham Committee, Sir John Wordie, should chair an ad hoc committee on pay and conditions, it being understood that any proposals emanating from such a body would have to be ratified in the ordinary Burnham way. All the teachers unions except the NUT would have accepted this. But the NUT felt that this was simply a resumption of the structure working party under another name, and that was too much to stomach.

The teachers' counter-proposal was for concurrent discussions on pay in Burnham and on conditions in the CLEA/st committee - but this the management panel turned down as being no more than a re-affirmation of the situation which had led to the present deadlock, and a prescription which would not allow the negotiating flexibility which was needed.

If both sides recognized that there could only be a package of measures, it should not be impossible to find some compromise between these two positions. Is it time to call in ACAS? Is it just fear of losing face which prevents the NUT

from accepting an ad hoc Wordie committee? Are there grounds for the authorities' deep distrust of the NUT which prevents them from giving the teachers' one more chance to make their clumsy formula work? After all, if there really were concurrent - does this mean simultaneous? - talks, the management panel could link its response to Burnham to progress in CLEA/st. It would be obvious to the world at large, if not to the NUT, that there would only be a deal on pay if the rest of the package made sense. Unfortunately, the NUT's attitude remains ambivalent. At one moment the NUT seems to acknowledge the need for a new package; the next it is determined to confine the negotiations to money.

The breakdown has occurred, however, and events have taken the course which seemed likely from the moment when the structure talks broke down before Christmas. The authorities will not now move on pay if there is any likelihood of the claim going to the arbitrators. (The DES and the Local Education Authorities' Councils must now wish they had not stupidly abandoned compulsory arbitration). The local authorities have already offered their manual employees 4.75 per cent, which has been rejected. The official line is that manual workers had a rough deal last time (less

good, that is, than the teachers got at the time, and that they should get more than the teachers this time. Probably they will end up with a slightly improved offer, but this will not necessarily mean the teachers can count on getting the same.

So the NUT is back to disruptive selective strikes and the rest of it. The response remains to be seen. The collapse of coal strike, though still to be complete, is a warning to strengthen the confidence of unions in industrial action. The authorities are plainly telling them when they say they cannot afford to do without a larger deal which persuades Sir Keith to Cabinet for a special subcommittee of teachers' direct action will, therefore, be the Government, not the L.E.A.s, and teachers have to make up their own mind how much chance they have of coercing Mrs Thatcher into paying them more.

Teachers are poorly paid and it is in the national interest that teaching should remain a good people. Many teachers, especially those who know about computers and television technology, can expect to earn much more outside the classroom. Anyone who follows this fact has not escaped some large employers in the private sector. But this doesn't mean there is going to be - or should be - a Houghton or Clegg: those days are over. The needed is to look at the salary structure and how much money can be distributed in ways which accord best with the needs of a profession which is contracting and where promotion prospects are much less good than they used to be. Teachers have it in their own hands to negotiate on matters. They will be perverse and, I am sure, unprofessional, if they prefer the instrument of direct action in these circumstances to intelligent negotiation and bargaining.

Meanwhile, it will not be lost on teachers' schools that while their negotiations are locked the Burnham Further Education Committee is going full steam ahead for a new staff agreement.



Fred Smithies: backdoor move

Avon agrees rate-cap pact with NUT

by Richard Garner

Avon has become the first county council to reach agreement on a statement of intent with the National Union of Teachers to protect jobs and services if it faces rate-capping next year.

It is among about 30 authorities which the NUT has approached for negotiations.

The pioneer deal commits them both to defend and "where possible" improve the provision of education within the county. The agreement is expected to be ratified by the education committee later this month.

The agreement has been received with jubilation at NUT headquarters. It sets out the two sides' "duty" to provide a sufficient education service for the needs of the population "as defined in the 1944 Education Act".

The union hopes the agreement will allow those who sign it to test in the courts any Government rate-capping action against the authority. Detailed negotiations will determine ways to maintain education provision and to stick to the statement of intent.

Avon, which is Labour-controlled, claims it will need cuts worth £30 million, including £12.5 million on education, to keep within government spending targets next year.

An "illustration" of its cuts includes £4.5 million from nursery education, £2.5 million in further education towards and £2 million from school meals.

Sheffield, one of four L.E.A.s facing rate-capping this year, was expected to be the first to sign such a peace-treaty deal.

However, negotiations over the agreement have become drawn out, and the NUT warned this week that the atmosphere may have been soured by Sheffield's decision to send its teachers' letters telling them that their withdrawal of goodwill over their pay claim could amount to a breach of contract.

ACSET victim of Sir Keith's 'mistrust of committees'

by Bert Lodge

Sir Keith Joseph's mistrust of representative committees was blamed this week for his decision to disband in April the Advisory Committee on the Supply and Education of Teachers.

The Education Secretary told the Commons last week that when the current five-year term of the committee was up he would wait at least two years before considering whether to re-constitute it.

Mr Fred Smithies, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, said: "I have a sneaking suspicion that it's a backdoor way of shutting down the only avenue of consultation left that formally provides for the involvement of teacher unions."

The feeling among the unions that

Sir Keith prefers a committee of individuals invited by his own office was voiced by Miss Jean Boock, assistant secretary higher education at the lecturers' union, NATFHE. She said: "I am fairly sure he prefers a nominated body. There's no rationale to end ACSET at present so one can only impute motives."

"It's significant that he has not replied to the last three pieces of advice. The idea may be to disband before members complain that their advice is not being listened to and later replace them with a committee which offers the sort of advice one wants to hear."

Miss Nan Whitbread, NATFHE representative on the committee, said she doubted whether Sir Keith liked to listen to a committee at all. "I think he

prefers to rely on his inspectors", she said.

Mr Alan Evans, senior education official of the National Union of Teachers, said Sir Keith's decision was regrettable. He thought a nominated body would have neither the breadth nor pungent approach of the present committee.

Recent ACSET advice known to have displeased Sir Keith is for an increase of 49 per cent in newly-trained teachers in order to implement Government policies in schools.

This conflicts with advice from Sir Keith's own officials offered to local authorities last September that the required staffing increase could be found mainly from redeployment and surplus from falling rolls provided these teachers were not used merely to bring down class sizes.

Complex tasks spoil lab record

by Susannah Kirkman

"Good, but could do better", is the Assessment of Performance Unit's verdict on the practical science skills of pupils aged 11, 13 and 15.

The sixth in the series of science reports for teachers says that, while 80 per cent of pupils can follow simple instructions, they cannot cope with more complicated tasks, such as filtering without contamination. Pupils can use some measuring instruments very

well but any tricky factor, such as decimals on an ammeter scale, causes considerable problems.

Youngsters are not good at estimating physical quantities, the report says. Only one in three can estimate to within 50 per cent of set value.

And although most pupils make correct observations, they tend to observe less than teachers require or expect.

More opportunities are needed to try out and assess practical skills if "science for all" is to include the ability to investigate, the report concludes.

Practical Testing at Ages 11, 13 and 15: Science Report for Teachers No. 6. Available from The Association for Science Education, College Lane, Hatfield, Herts. AL10 9AA. Price: £1.00 or 75p each for five or more copies.

Newham attacked on reorganization

by Mike Durham

Newham education authority has been severely criticized by its district auditor for its lack of a school reorganization policy, which it says will cost the ratepayers more than £1 million a year.

The report appears to give substantial support to Mr James Palling, Newham's Chief Education Officer, who has been offered £25,000 to resign, following what councillors describe as a "loss of confidence" in the director.

One main point of friction between Mr Palling and left-wing councillors is understood to be the borough's "no closures" policy for schools, despite sharply falling secondary rolls.

The auditor's report points out that secondary rolls have fallen by 11.7 per cent in four years, but although the L.E.A. has several times discussed a reorganization policy, it has failed to agree on one.

Over the past two years, two consultative papers on school closures and two draft plans have passed through the council. One plan was extensively discussed at committee level and public meetings but never acted upon.

The L.E.A. has also failed to notify the Education Department of any plans to take surplus school places out of use, as it was required to by the end of 1981.

The auditor states that there is "now an urgent need" for Newham to adopt a plan. The report predicts that rolls will continue falling until 1988. Unless a reorganization is carried out, some secondary schools will have less than five forms of entry.

The report says that if a plan had been adopted, the L.E.A. would already have saved £252,000 a year on running costs. By 1988, it estimates that Newham would be saving £1,111,000 a year.

Mr Palling's support for a controversial Asian language teaching scheme in Newham is understood to be another point of contention between him and some Labour councillors.

The outer London borough, which has a large proportion of Asian children in schools, runs a highly acclaimed language unit teaching children Asian languages up to public examination level.

There are 19 full-time specialist teachers in 24 schools. Last year, 143 children passed examinations in languages including Hindi, Punjabi and Urdu.

Dr Manju Agarwal, the unit's coordinator, said Mr Palling supported teaching Asian languages in schools, but the idea now seemed to be losing favour.

"Things change so quickly in politics that it's difficult to judge the climate. But some councillors now believe that Asian languages should be taught in community schools and not in mainstream education."

Mr Palling is a linguist and he supported the development of the scheme. Now it's one reason he is being attacked. People thought that because I am Asian and a woman it would soon finish, but it hasn't. We have a good reputation all over the country and abroad.

Grassroots curriculum development

The School Curriculum Development Committee has launched far-reaching plans to stimulate curriculum development at grassroots level and 258 local projects in more than 90 L.E.A.s are to be funded this year.

Topics range from the use of video in drama to help disturbed and disadvantaged children to the development of

science in infant schools. Each scheme will receive an average of £600.

The SCDC will link schools which are running similar projects. "We're hoping for a multiplying effect far beyond the value of the awards," explained the committee's chief executive, Mr Keith McWilliam.

Court action on spending

Three education authorities which claim they have been given the wrong spending targets next year have been given leave to start legal action against Mr Patrick Jenkin, the Environment Secretary. A date has been set for a High Court hearing next Wednesday.

The authorities - Conservative-led Bradford and Labour-controlled Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire - contend that between them they have been given targets £23 million below their entitlement because of a miscalculation.

Bradford wants another £4 million, Nottinghamshire £6.7 million, and Derbyshire £12.3 million. The authorities believe they have a good chance of mounting a strong legal challenge to the figures.

The Inner London Education Authority is still considering whether to take legal action against Mr Jenkin over the assumptions he used to calculate the rates ceiling to be imposed next month.

And the London borough of Haringey has also sought legal opinion over the possibility of a similar action. This week it was claimed that an Environment Department official had disclosed the assumptions used to set the rates ceiling to a Tory opposition councillor.

The Labour group claims that Mr Jenkin was wrong to provide the information to Conservative members but not to the ruling Labour group.

Drugs pack

Schools throughout the country are to be sent advice packs for teachers on how to deal with drug abuse in the classroom. The DES booklet is part of a new Government initiative on drugs to be launched later this month.

Nothing imaginary about the latest round of cuts How real are real terms?

One of the few contributions economists have been able to make to the education debate has been to persuade almost everybody that it is necessary to look at expenditure in real terms. This is so both for understanding what has happened and for assessing future plans.

It may seem somewhat paradoxical, therefore, if I start by pointing out that expenditure in ordinary cash terms is also of considerable importance. Consider a government, such as the present one, attempting unilaterally to operate a public sector incomes policy. It needs to reinforce its bargaining position by announcing in advance what sums it proposes to make available to meet salaries and by implication anything else that might be purchased. The alternative of being committed to the provision of a given volume of resources, no matter what it costs, appears *prima facie* to encourage inflation. Indeed, a government running a more sophisticated economic policy, with greater likelihood of success, would still find it prudent to indicate that its plans in volume terms have to be subjected to some cash restraints.

The problem at the present time is the disappearance from the Government's Expenditure Plans of volume figures altogether. Even if this were justifiable for planning and control, it is inexcusable for the presentation of outcomes. At the very least the result is to make rational discussion of education more difficult.

There are, of course, figures published in so-called "real" terms. These are the cash figures adjusted for the general rise in prices in the economy at large. (They used to be known as "expenditure in cost terms".) Such figures are not unimportant, because they are a sort of measure of what has to be given up in terms of goods and services in general, to pay for the educational services. It may seem odd

because, in an economy with large scale unemployment, it is debatable what cost to the public sector means altogether.)

Between 1979 and 1983, real terms expenditure on education grew by about 3 per cent whereas gross domestic product grew by almost 2 per cent. The result has been that the ratio of educational expenditure to gross domestic product rose in that period from 5 per cent to 5.2 per cent.

If, instead, the interval 1979 to 1984 is looked at, a rather different picture emerges: expenditure on education and science is thought to have fallen by 2 per cent in 1984, making the overall expansion in the five years at most 1 per cent. Despite the miners' strike (it is apparent that gross domestic product grew somewhat in 1984. Thus, it appears that 1984 was a year of both absolute and relative cuts in education expenditure.

Furthermore, in the next three years, educational expenditure is planned to fall by approximately 8 per cent.

In Tony Travers's article in last week's TES (pages 12 and 13), he referred to the local authorities' index of education costs, which had been used in the table of L.E.A. expenditure prepared by the Chartered Institute for Public Finance and Accountancy, but the full reference was unfortunately omitted. The relevant "deflator" can be found in *Kate Support Grants (England) 1984-85*, Table K, published jointly by the local authority associations.

Using this deflator, the index for education costs, the index for the whole economy, and the index for the public sector, are shown in the table below.

in real terms. Without being accused of over-optimism, I would guess that GDP will grow by at least 7 or 8 per cent in the same period, implying again relative and absolute cuts.

The whole point about volume figures is that the prices of resources used in education rise relative to prices in general. Thus, even if the government were prepared to maintain expenditure in "real" terms, there would still be real cuts. The cynic might say that that is why the volume terms figures are no longer published.

Despite that, can anything be done to throw some light on the matter? Obviously, the Treasury and Central Statistical Office could easily make the volume figures available again. Until then, however, all is not lost. One can proceed along the lines indicated by Tony Travers in *The TES* last week. Alternatively, it is possible to make one or two simple calculations based on the material in the CSO Blue Book. These limit us for the moment to 1983, but are still of interest. Essentially, the

L.E.A. education in 1984-85 as in 1979-80 is 61.24. The deflator for the economy as a whole used by the Government is substantially lower - 52.16 per cent.

The difference can be illustrated as follows. Suppose an education authority spent £100 million in 1979-80 and had raised this to £156 million in 1984-85 - this, using the Government's deflator would represent a 2.5 per cent increase. But, using the local authorities' measure of education costs, it shows a decrease of 3.2 per cent. (Take your pick.)

problem is to find a suitable deflator for actual expenditure to convert it to volume terms. There are two suitable candidates. One is the "general government final consumption" deflator which is shown explicitly in the Blue Book. A second can be worked out by comparing local authority final consumption on education in current prices and 1980 prices. This gives an implicit "local authority final consumption" deflator. The point about each of these deflators is that they rose about 60 per cent while prices in general rose almost 50 per cent. There was a crude relative price effect of 10 per cent. (The ratio of the two sets of prices rose by 6.6 per cent.)

Now, the simple thing to do is to take current educational expenditure on goods and services and deflate it directly by one of these index numbers. Capital expenditure can be deflated by an index of the price of capital equipment, and the remainder by the GDP deflator. The effect of these calculations is to show that education expenditure in volume terms grew by just over 1 per cent in the four years from 1979-83. (Local authority educational expenditure itself grew by less than a half of one per cent.)

The Government can claim that this justifies them in rebuffing those who claimed it did not grow at all. At the same time, this growth is less than the 3 per cent claimed in the White Paper and is also less than GDP. Moreover, when the 1984 figures appear, they will almost certainly show that over five years there has been a decline. (Indeed, this is confirmed by the 1984-85 figures in the White Paper as published.)

lished.)

A last comment I would like to make is that all of this is to do with determining a correct measure of what is going in to education. But it is a highly aggregated and ignored and obvious matters as the decline in the number of teachers being employed.

We are surely also interested in the scale and quality of the output. The other is the study of *inequality of the public expenditure*. While it is true that it contains all sorts of interesting achievements and performance, the measures are simplistic and not recognized as such. It appears, however, that in higher education, at least, we are reasonably productive, growing in effectiveness. There is some indication that this is also true of the rest of education. The trouble that present policy appears to be on a desire to penalize success rather than reward it. If we are to have a new era of rational approach, we need to be appreciated that this is not incompatible with the crude cost cutting which is so beloved by the Conservative Party.

Maurice Peston

Maurice Peston is Professor of Economics at Queen Mary College, London.

NO COMMENT

It has also come to my attention that there may be slight confusion over what constitutes a "living individual" for the purpose of registration under the Act. In so far as school systems are concerned, I therefore wish to clarify that this category includes all pupils, individuals, pupils included.

From a letter to headteachers about the Data Protection Act from the Director of Education, January 23.

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Giving the DES a free range on batter

Out of the mouth of very babes and sucklings... (Psalms 8, verse 2).

I had not hitherto thought of parliamentary draftsmen as babes and sucklings. But it is clear that they fulfil something of the same function. One of the things they have to do is to take the policies or proposals of Secretaries of State and turn them into something that will stand up in a court of law. This process can be very revealing.

Take, for example, the Education (Corporal Punishment) Bill, which had its Second Reading on January 28. The Bill seeks to enable parents to exempt their children from corporal punishment, so that the Government can fulfil its obligations under the European Convention on Human Rights. In doing so, parliamentary draftsmen were faced with the need to define corporal punishment. The way they have done so is as follows (section 1, sub-section 2):

Subject to sub-section 3 below, references in this section to the giving of corporal punishment are references to doing anything for the purpose of punishing the pupil (whether or not there are also other reasons for doing it) which, apart from any justification, would constitute battery.

Battery is a crime for which a magistrate can (I believe) send you to prison for six months or fine you £1,000. The babes and sucklings have spoken: "Corporal punishment" is something which, except when educationally applied, can land you in jail for half a year. No doubt simple battery

Tyrell Burgess finds the definition of corporal punishment in the new Education Bill revealing, and argues that the legislation undermines the powers and duties of I.E.A.s and heads, under the guise of increasing parental choice.



also has an educative effect on those to whom it is administered, and it is useful to speculate what is learned by it.

The babes and sucklings have also done well with the parenthesis in the sub-section quoted above. Battery is "corporal punishment" provided it is done to punish - "whether or not there are also other reasons for doing it". I have never been sure what a mind does when it boggles, but there must be many minds boggling at this parenthesis.

There was once a senior boy at one of our extremely senior public schools who was instructed to beat a younger one. He expressed himself entirely ready to do so, but added: "I think I should tell you, sir, that it would give

me the most exquisite sexual pleasure". His scruples would clearly have been mitigated by the present Bill, since punishment would still have been one of the reasons for the battery.

Be this as it may, the new Bill provides that parents can exempt their children from battery for any purpose by entering their names on a register kept in the school, and there are to be regulations made by the Secretary of State governing registers. These will cover obtaining and recording parents' views; the form and contents of registers; "functions as to making and cancelling entries in registers; the effect of different kinds of entry; dates, copies, preservation and 'delivery up' of registers; and many others, including 'incidental, supplementary, consequential and transitional provisions'".

All this repeats the errors of so much recent legislation in education. What happens is that the Government asserts that it wishes to increase parental choice, but all it does is to undermine the powers and duties of local education authorities and heads of schools, and intrude detailed central regulation into the running of schools.

One would have thought that the Secretary of State might have learned the lesson from the 1980 Education Act which, under the guise of increasing parental preference on schools, undermined the responsibilities of I.E.A.s, covered the country with appeals tribunals and affected the reality of parental preference not a jot.

In the present case, a fiction is preserved that parents will be able to sign their children up for battery if they wish. The fact is that no school where parents "contract out" will be able to go on battering the others.

What the Bill does, therefore, is to centralize control over the conduct of individual schools, without giving any real responsibility to individuals. And the control will not be exercised on matters of substance but in extending the growth of bureaucratic procedures.

The new Bill follows the present

A flexible thinker in an inflexible mode

Ted Wragg reflects on his recent radio interviews with Sir Keith Joseph



When we called at BBC Supplies to collect our portable tape-recorder none was available. "Tell you what," said the supplies man helpfully, "if you promise to bring it straight back I'll lend you this one." It was an exceptionally robust one labelled prominently "Roger Cook, Checkpoint." Looking at all the dents in it, evidence of the many assaults on the fearless Roger during his various interviews with awkward subjects on his hard-hitting consumer programme, I had a grim foreboding of my foot stuck firmly in the DES door and Sir Keith and his press man leaning heavily on the other side, refusing to comment. We were, in fact, graciously relieved.

During the first programme Sir Keith began to outline a view of parental contributions to school capitalisation that seemed to me, in retrospect, because I was too slow at the time to pick it up in detail, to be bordering on the illegal. This exchange was broadcast on January 1, and he repeated a similar version at the North of England conference a few days later.

Ted Wragg: Parent teacher associations are now complaining vigorously that they're having to raise money for the basic fabric of education, things like books, for example, rather than luxuries and extras. Are you not concerned about this?

Sir Keith Joseph: I certainly would be if they were being compelled. The law forbids that, but inasmuch as parent teacher associations have over the years voluntarily given money for the benefit of their schools I am in favour of it, and provided it's voluntary it's legal.

TW: Well it's sort of "voluntary", because I mean, more schools are saying they're so strapped for cash for vital things, that the only way they can get them is for parents to raise the money, which is fine in areas where people are pretty well-heeled, but isn't it a wedge between rich and poor, in that downtown areas are going to find it very difficult indeed if there are unemployed parents, and so on, to raise money?

KJ: But it is precisely to take into account that sort of background that local education authorities can adjust the money they give to schools; to take into account what parents happen to give in that particular area. In other words local education authorities can give more, or less, according to what parents manage to give.

Grant for that purpose, but in this exchange, which was part of programme three that had to disappear in the editing, he also accused teachers.

KJ: And why sometimes is the money put aside for books and maintenance and equipment not spent on books and maintenance and equipment? Because the teachers' pay exceeds that provided for in the budget and raises the other funds. Do be realistic.

TW: Ah, but that would not be a point that would be put forward about, say, the pay of the police. One wouldn't say crime has risen, because less money was available for crime fighting, because the police have had substantial pay increases.

KJ: I have not seen, maybe they exist, reports indicating the police authorities for wasting money on the scale that HMI reports that some local authorities waste public money.

The notion that there is still a great deal of waste in the system colours much of what Sir Keith believes. This was nowhere more apparent than when we talked about universities. I was open-mouthed at one point when he seemed unaware of the massive reduction in university funding since 1961.

TW: It still is the case that the cuts have very badly affected most higher education institutions, both universities and polytechnics.

KJ: I wonder whether that is right. I think the polytechnics, and I think that many university departments may welcome, with hindsight, the improvement in

standards, the improvement in management that has been brought about by the cuts. Now, of course, there were other sorts of difficult implications in denying that, particularly in terms like universities which are difficult to manage; they don't have a management structure. Nevertheless some good has come out of it.

Professor Ted Wragg is director of the School of Education, Essex University.

Examining bodies refuse to bow to pre-vocation

by Susannah Kirkman

The future of the Certificate for Pre-Vocational Education is in jeopardy because some examining bodies are refusing to allow the new course to supersede their own exams, according to Mr Peter Dawson, general secretary of the National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education.

Mr Dawson is urging Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, to seek an agreement from bodies like the Royal Society of Arts and the boards responsible for the Certificate of Extended Education that the CPVE should replace existing qualifications, as originally envisaged.

If schools and colleges are not convinced that the CPVE will be widely accepted, they will not want to become involved with it. Mr Dawson says the short time-scale allowed for launching the new course makes it urgent to rationalize provision as soon as possible.

Criticism of "free-booting" examining bodies has been growing among CPVE's further education supporters. Mr Mick Farley, Sheffield's Post-16 Senior Adviser, has roundly condemned the decision of the Oxford and Cambridge Schools' Examination Board to offer the CEE.

"The GCE boards stand guilty of both naked self-interest and total indifference to the curriculum well-being of young people," Mr Farley said at a regional conference of the Institute of Careers Officers in Doncaster.

He described the continuation of CEE as "the latest cynical move by GCE boards to preserve elitism and outdated assessment methods in an effort to ensure their own survival".

"All the evidence suggests that single-subject, norm-referenced exams are now discredited. They are largely responsible for demotivation and under-achievement among young people," Mr Farley told *The TES*.

Meanwhile, the Northern Examining Association is to introduce a "mature" GCSE aimed at 17-plus and adult students, although it has denied that the new exam is a direct competitor with the CPVE.

"CPVE is a package. It is irrelevant to the needs of people who want qualifications in one or two subjects to fit in with other courses," Mr Colin Vickerman, Secretary of the Joint Matriculation Board, told *The TES*.

Lancashire in sex discrimination dispute

by Adriana Caudrey

A deputy headteacher, who founded a national pressure group to fight for women's rights in education, is accusing her local authority of sex discrimination in its handling of her own career.

Ms Vera Chadwick, deputy head of Knowle High School in Blackpool, is taking Labour-led Lancashire County Council to an industrial tribunal next month over its failure to promote her. The Equal Opportunities Commission is backing her for the four-day hearing.

Two other cases of alleged sex discrimination against women teachers in Lancashire are also in progress.

Concern about the extent to which women teachers have been passed over for promotions was one of the main reasons for the setting up of the Lancashire-based national campaign group, Women in Education: The National Association.

Last week, the controversy took a new turn when the county council revealed a provisional equal opportunities policy. This was immediately attacked by local educationists for its tardiness - the authority had started to call itself an equal opportunities employer two years ago.

The NEA sees the "mature" GCSE as complementary to CPVE, according to Mr Vickerman.

But some college principals and headteachers view it differently. Mr Roy Burgess, principal of the Millbank College of Commerce in Liverpool, said: "I suspect a substantial number of students will see CPVE as closing doors rather than opening them and will consequently opt for the GCSE (Mature)".

He nevertheless plans to run both courses. According to Mr Nigel Sidaway, head of St Aldan's School, Carlisle, "CPVE may be a very good idea for a particular target group but you can't package all sixth-formers into 'academic' or 'pre-vocational' courses. They need flexibility."

Mr Sidaway also claimed that large areas of vocational experience like agriculture and community care were missing from CPVE. He wants to leave CPVE courses to the local further education college.

When it is introduced in 1988, the "mature" GCSE will replace JMB's popular A/O courses, as well as the CEE offered by the four CSE boards of the NEA. Although the exam will meet the criteria for the GCSE, it will be geared to the interests and needs of mature students who may not be taking full-time courses.

So far, the Joint Board for Pre-Vocational Education has refused to admit that CEE poses a threat to CPVE. It has suggested that single-subject exams could be included within the additional studies component of CPVE. But Mrs Janet Elliot, the Joint Secretary of the Joint Board, has emphasized that it would be confusing and counter-productive for the majority of candidates to build in too many extra elements into the course.

Schools would also not be expected to provide a full range of CPVE courses and the more vocationally-oriented "preparation modules" were not compulsory, Mrs Elliot said.

The board expects growing support for the CPVE from schools and colleges as routes into further and higher education become established. Discussions with the Standing Conference on University Entrance are to begin soon on the recognition of the CPVE as part of the O level requirement for matriculation.

Acorn crisis may hit schools

by Carolyn O'Grady

As Acorn Computers tries to pull itself out of the biggest financial crisis of its short life, schools are wondering whether they are in danger of being left with unserviced computers and a gradual drying up of software.

With the backing and encouragement of the BBC and the Department of Trade and Industry, nearly 80 per cent of schools now own a BBC micro manufactured by Acorn. Most educational publishers have also committed themselves to the BBC. Some produce educational software exclusively for that machine, many for the two "education computers", the RML machines and the BBC.

Last week Acorn's shares dropped to 28p compared with a peak of 196p last year - and dealing on the Unlisted Securities Market was suspended. Acorn has also parted company with its financial advisers, Lazard Brothers, the merchant bank, and Cazenove & Co, the stockbroker. Another merchant bank, Close Brothers, has been engaged to help the company to reorganize its affairs.

However, it does look as though servicing arrangements will continue. Parts are not in short supply and distributors and suppliers will go on honouring agreements and negotiating new ones.

This week, during a programme in its *Microlive* series, the BBC put out a statement to the effect that the corporation "understands that in any reorganization Acorn will, of course, take care of the interests of existing and future BBC-micro owners".

The main effects of the Acorn crisis, however, will probably be more subtle and far-reaching. There could be a brake on software development and the manufacture and distribution of devices and services for the BBC, until it can be seen where schools will go now. At a recent conference, computer education advisers expressed some disquiet that Acorn's plans for education in the 1980s did not seem to go far beyond the eight-bit BBC machine.

However, not all the news is bad. Acorn's failure to update the BBC model B has been quickly seized on by the company's competitors, who recognize that schools need powerful machines to handle the more sophisticated work which they are eager to begin.

RML has already announced its new 16-bit machine, the Nimbus, at a special discount price for schools, and this week two American companies, Apple and Commodore, announced schemes for education. Apple is offering every school in Britain an Apple II at a 50 per cent discount, and Commodore has halved the price of its latest model, the Plus4.

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TES staff report on the first week of teacher industrial action over pay

Fresh wave of strikes to follow talks breakdown

by Richard Garner

Schools all over the country face strikes after next week's half-term break, following 10 hours of fruitless talks in the Burnham committee, the profession's pay negotiating body, earlier this week.

Talks on this year's pay claim broke down early on Tuesday morning, leaving both TUC-affiliated teachers' unions, the National Union of Teachers and the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, warning of a strike.

And this prospect of further industrial action increases the likelihood that either union or local education authorities could soon face legal action as a result of the impasse in negotiations.

The NUT has decided to ballot selected schools on strike action - with a view to commencing an escalating series of three-day strikes from Tuesday, February 26.

The union is focusing on areas which have been "hostile" to teachers during their current withdrawal of goodwill. At least 41 of the 104 local education authorities have now warned teachers they are breaking their contracts.

However, Liverpool City Council has said the teachers' claim should be met in full.

Mr Fred Jarvis, the union's general secretary, warned that disruption of classes could be a possibility this year - although he added a decision on this had yet to be taken.

Under union rules, each school needs a two-thirds voting majority before a strike can be called - which is a high hurdle to clear.

Under the current industrial relations legislation, the national withdrawal of goodwill could still land the union in court.

Local education authorities are bracing themselves for legal action by aggrieved parents - either compelling them to provide the standard of education set out in the 1944 Education Act or suing for loss of earnings because of

having to stop work to look after a child sent home from school because of the teachers' action.

In the event of an i.e.a. being sued because of the withdrawal of goodwill, the employers believe they could recoup the damages with court action under the trade union legislation agreed by Parliament last year.

Meanwhile, the NAS/UWT, which is instructing its members to take part in a half-day strike on February 26, could face High Court injunctions ordering it to call off the strike - as was granted to the car firm, Austin Rover, when its unions called for strike action without a ballot.

However, Mr Fred Smithies, the union's deputy general secretary, said i.e.a.s would have to apply separately for injunctions.

Leaders of the union indicated they would comply with a court order - rather than risk sequestration of the union's funds. It, too, will be withdrawing goodwill from after the half-term break. The Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association will not, however, be advising members to take action or balloting them at this stage.

The breakdown of the pay talks came after ten hours of frustrating attempts to set up an acceptable way of discussing the management's pay and conditions package - which holds out the chance of 7.5 per cent extra on pay in return for a new contract.

In an effort to break the deadlock, Mr John Worle, the independent chairman of committee, suggested he should chair a meeting to try to resume discussions on the package.

However, this initiative proved unacceptable to the NUT who - backed only by the Assistant Masters and Mistresses Association on the teachers' side - suggested that discussions should run concurrently in Burnham on pay and pay structure and in CLEA/st on conditions of service.

Feeling runs high after deadlock

by Geraldine Hackett

Teachers across the country are angry at the breakdown of pay talks. Action by the National Union of Teachers is likely to close schools, particularly in the inner cities. Mr Bill Norton, acting headteacher at the Birmingham comprehensive, Primrose Hill, reckons that feeling in the profession is running high.

"Teachers are facing a dilemma. They are underpaid, but they are reluctant to strike", he said.

Teachers at Primrose Hill went on strike for four days during the pay dispute last year. Although there is a difference over tactics - teachers in one large London comprehensive school want the NUT to call an immediate, all-out, indefinite strike - city schools seem ready to vote in favour of stepping up industrial action.

In Hampshire schools, where there has been a patchy response to NUT guidelines on non-statutory duties, the failure of negotiations could provoke more militancy.

Mr Michael Walton, NUT representative at the Bobnutt comprehensive school at Liphook, in Hampshire, said staff had not been taking action.

"The majority of teachers here felt we had to negotiate as far as we could. We felt the union was being too hasty."

"There has now been further negotiation, and I don't know what response there would be to a ballot for industrial action."

The school's headteacher, Dr Alan Leach, who is the NUT's divisional secretary for the county, said he felt there would be a mixed response.

At the moment, the schools taking action are in Southampton and Portsmouth, whereas rural schools are not, on the whole, taking action.

Elsewhere, teachers reported a growing frustration at the negotiations that was likely to be translated into militant action.

Mr Gethin Lewis, headmaster of the Gabafrin primary school, which serves a large council estate in Cardiff, said "sensible, caring teachers" would support a vote for industrial action.

Heads join call for pay review

Headteachers have joined in the growing chorus of voices calling for a review of the teachers' pay negotiating body to allow both salaries and conditions of service to be discussed together.

In a letter to Sir Keith Joseph, the Education Secretary, the National Association of Head Teachers has urged him to amend the Remuneration of Teachers Act, which set up the Burnham committee as a body solely to deal with pay bargaining in 1965.

Mr David Hart, its general secretary, told Sir Keith that the opposition by the National Union of Teachers to the local authorities' structure proposals "owed as much to its inherent opposition to merging salaries and conditions of service as it did to the actual contents of the employers' package."

The failure of the 1985 salary negotiations to make any real progress largely results from the ability of the NUT to block negotiations on salaries and conditions of service by insisting that they must be negotiated separately.

by Burnham and CLEA/st (the body responsible for conditions of service) he added.

"The impasse we face this year has potentially disastrous consequences for the schools where salaries have already started and where more are threatened."

The NAHT has also repeated its view that there should be a separate pay negotiating body for headteachers and called for a review of the membership of the teachers' panel of the committee.

At present, the NUT has an overall majority on the panel by dint of the chairman's casting vote. Mr Hart says he is convinced that the movement in membership numbers between the teachers' organizations during the past year warrants a review.

The NAHT calls for legislation to bring pay and conditions together following a similar call from employers' organizations which are seeking an urgent meeting with Sir Keith for the same end.

Return letters says union

Teachers in Hertfordshire have been told to send back letters warning them their withdrawal of goodwill could be a breach of contract and lead to a loss of pay.

The 2,000-strong branch of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers has told its members to return the letters to the County Education Officer, Mr Donald Fleher, saying they do not accept the content of the letter as setting out their contract of employment.

Letters were sent out to all teachers in the county - even though at that stage only members of the National Union of Teachers had embarked on a withdrawal of goodwill (including a ban on covering for absent colleagues and lunchtime supervision).

Hertfordshire NAS/UWT members also passed a motion calling for a one-day token withdrawal of goodwill in protest at the "deliberately provocative" action of the authority.

Problem of deductions

Local education authorities face a dilemma in deciding exactly how much they should deduct from the pay of teachers who refuse to cover for absent colleagues.

The few authorities who have taken such a step in the past have normally tried to deduct national damages, saying how much individual teachers earn per hour and then deducting the equivalent of an hour's pay for every period where cover has been refused.

However, this is fraught with difficulties as the precise hours of the teachers are not defined - the fact they spend in school is roughly 20 hours per week but a survey by the NUT last week revealed they worked on average 20.3 hours extra.

Therefore, the average classroom teacher on a salary of £9,000 a year could expect to lose anything between £3.25 and £5.50 from their wage packet (before tax) for every period of refusal to cover.

Specific grant gains support from DES

The prospect of returning to the education specific grant has been raised again in Whitehall and is understood to have considerable backing from within the Department of Education and Science.

The system - which was abolished in 1956 - would give central government increased control over local authority education spending. It would enable the government to dictate how much should be spent on the services by local authority.

The latest attempt to resurrect the idea comes in the context of the so-called Baker Review, an internal Environment Department inquiry into local authority finance being conducted by Mr Kenneth Baker, the Local Government Minister.

A renewed education specific grant is one of many ideas under discussion. Neither the DES nor the Treasury has been asked for its views, but the Environment Department team is to produce a "shopping list" of reforms by Easter.

Most i.e.a.s would reject a return to specific grant, but some could be won over if it came with a package of other services.

Multicultural education 'remote and irrelevant'

Research for the Swann committee shows little enthusiasm among schools in 'all-white' areas. Diane Spencer reports



minorities combined with "an appalling ignorance" of their cultural backgrounds - to the extremes of overt racial hatred.

"illustrates vividly the gap which exists between the pronouncements and exhortations made at national level about the need to educate all pupils for life in a multicultural society, and the extent to which such an aim is accepted and acted upon."

But the researchers found many schools would welcome and respond to a positive lead, with appropriate definition and guidance, from the Department of Education and Science about multicultural education.

Examples of racism ranged from the unintentional patronizing kind - with its stereotyped ideas about ethnic

dislike and hatred, apparently because they were seen to be different from the accepted cultural religious and linguistic norms.

Racial prejudice seemed to be most prevalent among less bright pupils who might feel most threatened by "successful" minority communities. But there were some signs that young people might be more prepared than adults to adopt a positive view of a multicultural society given the opportunity.

Primary teachers were more willing to consider the implications of the changing nature of our society for their pupils than secondary teachers. They were chiefly concerned with their own subject specialism and were bound by the constraints of the exam system, the researchers found.

Recently qualified teachers commented on the inadequacy of the coverage of multicultural education in their courses. The courses were said by one to reflect "the whole gamut of

racial misunderstandings and folk mythology; some were apathetic, others condescending but some accepted the concept while a few respected it."

Many teachers, confronted by overt racism among pupils, were found to be uncertain, reluctant or determined that nothing could or should be done by the school to challenge these attitudes.

Some thought that emphasizing "differences" between groups could only be counter-productive and divisive, and attempting to tackle racial issues openly could exacerbate the situation.

All but one of the authorities in the survey supported the principle of educating all children for life in a multicultural society but there was a good deal of caution about putting this into practice.

Authorities could be influenced by the possible political repercussions of taking action in what was seen as a controversial field, the committee noted.

● Nottinghamshire County Council is to recruit 12 teachers who will form two teams to help West Indian origin children do better at school.

One group will concentrate on primary - aged children and the other on secondary and further education. Three-quarters of the cost of the project will be met by the Home Office under Section 11 funding.

Technology a must up to 16

Technology in some form should be on every secondary pupil's timetable every year in school until the age of 16, says a report, yet unpublished, from Oxford University department of educational studies.

Based on a four-year research project funded by the DES and Oxfordshire i.e.a. as part of the Oxford Educational Research Group programme, and carried out by the Department of Education and Science and CDT teachers, the report says the argument for the subject should be based on educational not vocational grounds. No option system should allow the subject to be dropped completely and resources for such universal provision would need to come from direct government funding.

To ensure sufficient teachers, mature students should be recruited from industry into one-year training courses in technology by paying them a special grant equal to the salary of a newly starting teacher.

"The lack of a clear coordinated curriculum policy throughout a school presents a real barrier for any new subject seeking to gain acceptance. In a system where each subject has to fight independently for its own existence... a new subject such as technology which does not have the status of the established academic subjects will find it impossible to make significant inroads."

The remedy lies in the development of a whole school curriculum policy where technology can be perceived as a problem-solving process. But while established subjects receive guidance or support from published books and course material "in technology this is (or was) almost non-existent."

The most fundamental shortage is that of teachers. "There are not sufficient teachers in the schools who have the ability and the enthusiasm required to teach technology well."

Besides recruits from industry, the group called for more technology places in initial teacher training and more in-service courses sponsored by the DES.

Local authorities are recommended to appoint advisers with responsibility for developing the subject and to establish both a technology forum where subject teachers could meet and a technology centre as a focus for local curriculum development.

Dyfed axe jobs

Dyfed is to axe 137 teaching posts, raise school meal prices by 5p and cut the hours dinner ladies work in the face of a "million" reduction in its 1985-86 budget.

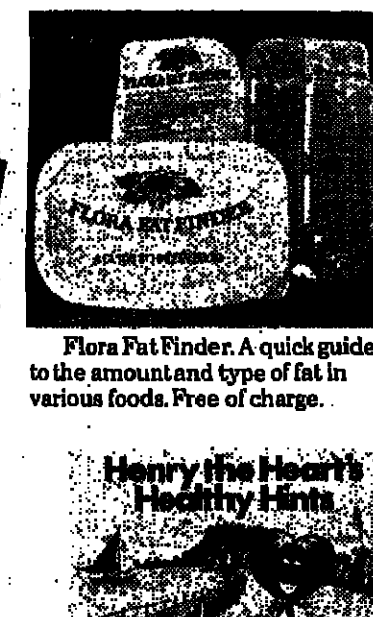
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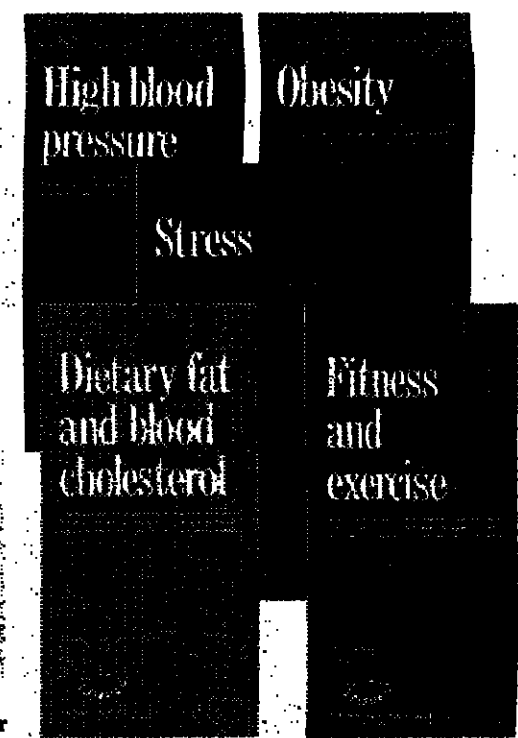
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Funding row continues

by Sarah Bayliss

Student numbers in universities must continue to be held down, given the level of Government funding, according to guidance issued by the University Grants Committee, this week.

In a letter to Britain's 52 universities, Sir Peter Swinerton-Dyer, chairman of the UGC, draws attention to the "continuing squeeze on recurrent grant and the variety of demands from Government for increased expenditure in particular areas". All the evidence indicates that the universities' financial difficulties will increase, he says.

● The continuing debate about the recent history of funding for the universities, prompted Mr Giles Radice, Labour's spokesman on education to ask Sir Keith what the recurrent grant had been each year since 1978-79 in constant 1984-85 prices and in cash terms, excluding the element of the

grant paid since 1982-83 to compensate for the loss of fee income from the reduction in tuition fees for home students in that year.

Sir Keith presented Parliament with a table giving the following figures, representing cash terms first, and real terms:

£602,005,233.	1978-79	£1,022,323,189
£728,481,734.	1979-80	£1,058,209,111
£942,931,714.	1980-81	£1,154,845,945
£967,959,423.	1981-82	£1,077,905,816
£1,006,705,242.	1982-83	£1,051,147,770
£1,061,199,999.	1983-84	£1,061,199,999
£1,124,664,000.	1984-85	£1,073,664,916



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Members of the Poles Maori Club from New Zealand show pupils from the Gladesmore Community School, north London, how to play the "stick game".

Nottinghamshire pupils have benefited from a scheme that sends specialist teachers to out-of-the-way primaries. Sarah Bayliss reports, as the project spreads to the inner city.

United they stand - a small school success story

A pilot project in Nottinghamshire, which has helped primary teachers to broaden the curriculum in small, isolated schools, is being extended to include inner city areas.

The Small Schools Project, which began as an experiment in 1982, has provided curriculum support for more than 50 small schools, each with fewer than 100 pupils.

This project, which has received glowing reports from participants, ties in closely with the Labour-controlled authority's policy for keeping small schools open and for taking steps to combat educational disadvantage.

It works by bringing schools together in groups or "federations" of four or five within a radius of about 15 miles. One headteacher acts as the group coordinator and through informal meetings - usually working lunches - they identify the subject areas which they feel need help, a fresh approach or special expertise.

Having identified the weak areas, the schools are provided with a suitable "consultant teacher" - an expert in subjects like science, drama or dance - who is put on secondment for one or two terms from their own schools.

Many consultant teachers have been handpicked by the project's founder Charles Betty, a district inspector for 12 years with a special brief for tackling educational disadvantage. He has known some of them since they were students on teaching practice.

"The first prerequisite is that they must be first-class primary practitioners with a proven track record," he explained. "But they must also have an identifiable specialism which people want."

Most consultants have more than five years' teaching experience and hold senior posts in subject areas at their own schools. But knowledge of a subject can be the deciding factor. "We had a dance and drama consultant who was a Scale 1 with only three years' teaching behind her," said Mr Betty. "She was less experienced than a lot of staff, but she had some skills that most other teachers didn't have and she worked tremendously well with them."

Before moving to Nottinghamshire in the early 1970s, Mr Betty worked in London directing an educational priority project. His enthusiasm for the work with small schools is obvious: "The results are about the most exciting I've ever seen. The level of teacher

involvement is outstanding."

He says the project has scotched the notion that curriculum development cannot go on in small schools. But there have been many other important side-effects and spin-offs. Mr Betty claims that for a relatively small investment - in 1982 Nottinghamshire awarded 1,000 extra teaching days - small schools have built strong and permanent links with each other, school-based in-service training has taken off and consultant teachers have received a major fillip to their own careers.

One of the first consultant teachers was Wendy Ramshaw who has seven years' teaching experience and a Scale 3 post for topic work at the Kingston junior school in Workson. She was attached, initially for half a term, to five schools including the village primary at East Markham. (Following an evaluation of her work and others, it was decided that placements must be for a term at least and that four schools should be the maximum teaching load for a consultant.)

East Markham has 90 children on roll, aged 5-11 with three teachers plus a headteacher. Mr Ramshaw made several visits to each of the five schools before term began and arranged to cover 10 topics, two in each school.

She said: "I thought teaching practice was hard but this was much harder." She would spend the day either leading a class or team teaching or working with children in groups. The lunch hour and time after school



was spent with the staff concerned, evaluating the successes and failures of the day and planning follow-up work for the rest of the week. She also had children's work to mark and lessons to prepare for her return visit the following week.

Wendy Ramshaw learned to cope with a variety of circumstances: class-



rooms without sinks, schools with much lower capital allowances than her own and with children across the country. "It gave me a wealth of experience and built up my knowledge of working with younger children. I found it hard."

Wendy Ramshaw seen at East Markham school, whose head is George Sproston (right).



Patricia Harvey at Besthorpe primary, whose head is Philip Emmerson (right) consolidated my teaching when I got back to my own class."

One of the main professional benefits was the experience of working alongside other teachers. "I learned a lot about dealing with adults as well as children. It was difficult and frustrating over without upsetting people."

George Sproston, head of East Markham who acted as coordinator to the federation of five, said an important factor in the success of project was Wendy Ramshaw's personality and ability to fit in and make changes in a short space of time.

Mrs Muriel Storer, an experienced classroom teacher with 8-10s, taught alongside Wendy Ramshaw on a project titled "Wood", which included a tree survey in Clumber Park and building a stockade in the classroom. "It was quite dubious because I had never done team teaching or worked with another adult in the classroom."

Despite her reservations she thought the experience was enlightening. "We worked at quite a pace because I wanted the children to have things to show her every time she came. I think I got as much out of it as the children did."

The network between the schools remains strong and they regularly organize joint school events and in-service days.

During Wendy Ramshaw's stay, an in-service course was set up and recognized with funding from county hall. Every fortnight staff held an evening meeting on topic work in their own schools.

Mr Sproston said: "The project was excellent. We got to know other colleagues and worked together. The addition of a single extra specialist teacher, even for one day a week, was extremely helpful."

At Besthorpe primary, where there are just 32 children aged 5-11, Mr Philip Emmerson, the head, feels that a fresh face is always welcome. "Some children live in isolated hamlets and outlying farms. Quite often the only time they meet adults outside their families is when they come to school."

Besthorpe is unusual in having had

three consultants since the scheme began. The first specialized in education for the early years and the second covered environmental topics. The latest, Mrs Patricia Harvey, started after Christmas, is a language specialist with an interest in literacy-based topic work. The notion of a children's story as a springboard to teaching the whole primary curriculum is one which the English Inspector at county hall is keen to promote.

At Besthorpe the entire school is currently steeped in the story of *Albert and the Green Bottle* - an adventure story which takes Albert across the frozen wastes of the Arctic. From the ceiling hang swaths of fabric to give an impression of sailing ships and waves, and young children are busy making three-dimensional fish to hang from the rafters.

Inspired by "Albert", the children have learned sea shanties (music) and mapping (maths), studied explorers and the Arctic (history and geography), made compasses and done experiments with sailing and floating (science and technology).

"It's a very stimulating job for me and seeing all their marvelous maps. The teachers are very hard-working and keen to follow up my ideas. We turn up I can't believe what they've achieved," Mrs Harvey said.

Philip Emmerson said he believed the scheme was especially valuable because of its extremely practical nature. "It is very enjoyable and it's tremendously helpful when someone can come into school and say 'look this is how I do it and this is how I've done it'."

He says the new closeness between neighbouring schools could mean in future they service their own curriculum needs by exchanging staff. They have already embarked on curricular guidelines.

Two other federations have made particular efforts to bring together peer groups of children for joint activities. At Gunthorpe School there have been joint activities in drama, art, science and environmental studies.

Ken Jones, the head, said: "In a school it is possible that there may be only one pupil in a year group. It is important for that pupil to meet others to test educational experience and preparation for the larger secondary school environment."

Evaluation has been an important part of the experiment. Last year Mr Julio Baggaley, a primary teacher at three-teacher school, was awarded a one-year teacher fellowship to study Grosseteste where her thesis was on the challenges and opportunities of teaching in small schools. As part of that she visited many schools and talked to teacher consultants. The majority had "glowing reports" of the project.

"We tend to think that all schools are the same but of course they are not. They find all sorts of different ways of doing things. If they're doing it well, good practice tends to fall by the wayside. I think the consultants get as much from going into the schools as the schools get from them."

The next phase of the scheme is to start in April when urban schools will be able to request this specialist form of curriculum support.

Staff should be held in higher esteem

by Sarah Bayliss

Primary teachers should be more highly regarded by the public and by the Government and their salaries should be increased, MPs were told this week by local authority leaders.

In evidence to the Commons Select Committee on Education, representatives from the Association of County Councils said their concern about the plight of primary teachers trapped on low salaries was a major reason for proposing a new career structure and pay reform.

Mr Philip Merrifield, Conservative chairman of the ACC's education committee, said that around 100,000 out of 400,000 teachers were caught on low pay scales. Many of them were in primary schools.

Referring to the breakdown in talks

with the teacher unions he said: "It is all the more tragic that those who lead them are denying them the right to get out of that position."

Mrs Josephine Farrington, opposition leader on the ACC's education committee, said there needed to be public recognition, backed by increased salaries, that the intellect and experience needed for teaching young children was at least equal to that needed for teaching sixth-formers.

Mr Martin Flannery, Labour MP for Sheffield, Hillsborough, said he believed primary teacher morale was at its lowest ebb. Teachers were lingering on low pay, knowing they couldn't move on, however dedicated and effective they were. They lived in fear of being redeployed or made redundant.

Recently, he had visited schools in Surrey with other members of the Select Committee and he had been staggered by the comparison with the North of England. At one school in Surrey, MPs were told that the education allowance was doubled by a contribution from parents.

Mr Paul White, chairman of Essex education committee, disagreed. He said morale was low; he urged MPs to visit schools in Essex where morale was high and where there were exciting developments.

Sir William Van Straubenzon, Conservative MP for Wokingham, chairman of the Select Committee, said MPs were receiving conflicting reports about the desirable waiting date for children entering schools.



Sarah Bayliss reports on the Pre-School Playgroups Association's attempts to extricate itself from an unprecedented financial crisis.

Why the PPA cupboard is bare

The Pre-School Playgroups Association goes into its annual general meeting and conference at Lancaster University next month in an atmosphere of grave financial crisis.

The future of the association, which supports 14,000 playgroups around the country, depends on the membership of parents and playleaders approving emergency measures.

Last June, Mr Ray Pallot, PPA's finance officer, was sacked and the police were called in to investigate the association's finances. Papers were sent to the Director of Public Prosecutions and they are still under consideration.

In a statement sent to all members, the national executive committee says: "We now know that over some period of time the information provided to the association, on which financial decisions and planning have been based, has been inaccurate and misleading."

Accounts presented to the 1984 AGM indicated that PPA had financial reserves. But accounts for the six months ending March 31, 1984 showed there was overspending of £26,791 and that there were no reserves to meet this deficit.

PPA suffered another blow when its grant from the Department of Health and Social Security for 1984-85 was frozen at the previous year's level: the sum of £361,000 was not announced nor received until late June.

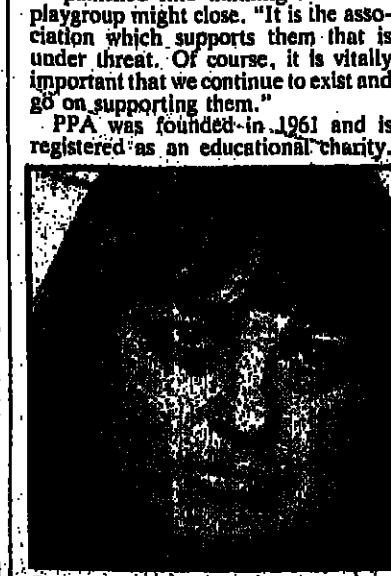
As a result of these combined circumstances a deficit of £20,000 is projected for the end of this financial year.

PPA endured a further set-back when HM Customs and Excise sent a bill for £57,857.53 for unpaid VAT. Unknown to the association's officers, VAT had not been paid and collected in the proper manner since 1978.

In response to the crisis, the association's work at national and regional levels has been cut back "to a point at which it is barely ticking over"; national and regional committees have stopped all development work. Legal advice has been sought and the DHSS has been asked to consider a supplementary grant to offset the projected deficit for 1984-85. Its officials are working closely with PPA to reorganize completely the association's financial management.

Mrs Sue Griffin, PPA chairman, told the TES that parents should not be panicked into thinking their own playgroup might close. "It is the association which supports them that is under threat. Of course, it is vitally important that we continue to exist and go on supporting them."

PPA was founded in 1961 and is registered as an educational charity.



Sue Griffin: no need for parents to panic

its aim, as expressed in its constitution, is "to enhance the development and education of children under statutory school age by encouraging parents to understand and provide for the needs of their children through community groups." Since the 1970s there has been an increased emphasis on parental education and personal development.

PPA does not "run" playgroups - all members are independent and autonomous - but it offers training, advice and support through a national, regional, county and branch network. It employs 11 training and development officers in the English regions and altogether has around 35 staff.

In 1982-83 more than 40,000 people enrolled on around 2,500 training courses run by PPA. Some courses are designed for teenagers with an interest in child care and they are put on in schools. PPA has an increasing involvement with the young unemployed, offering placements in playgroups and some training.

PPA is one of the few organizations for under-fives and their families with a voice at national level. Thirty-four per cent of all three and four-year-olds attend playgroups and 82 per cent of all registered playgroups are members of PPA.

The association needs to raise £80,000 quickly but its executive does not think direct donations, a compulsory levy or a dramatic increase in the annual subscription would be effective.

Instead, the AGM will be asked to approve an emergency measure, switching the whole sum of annual subscriptions from the regional to national level for one year. The regional organization will be hard hit but the intention is to protect playgroups, many of which struggle to survive financially, from the brunt of the burden.

The PPA statement points out to members that it relies on government grants for well over half its income. It must maintain its financial credibility and show that it is taking steps to wipe out the deficit if the grants are to continue. The ability of the regional network to raise money from local authorities also depends on the credibility of PPA nationally and the knowledge of government backing.

The statement reads: "It would be tempting to try to cut services at national level even more. There would then be a danger of so weakening the network that it would be difficult to repair. In addition it would weaken our case for future revenue from the DHSS if we implied that it was possible to manage by reducing essential services for one year."

Since the NEC realized the full extent of the financial crisis it has spent many hours appraising the situation, looking at the possibilities and tentatively planning for the future. Despite the work and worry, your national executive committee remains confident that the strength of shared effort, which is an important feature of the whole playgroup movement, will enable the association to move forward positively.

Mrs Griffin said: "Given the emergency measure we want to take and given the shared determination of many people that this organization is too important to let go, I am sure the future is a bright one because we shall be stronger once we have got through this."



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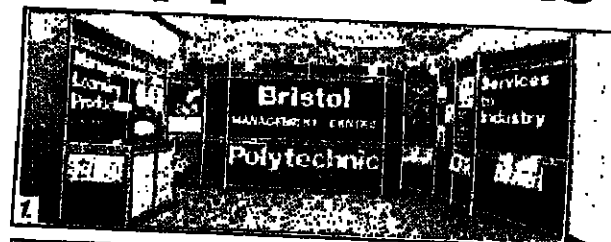
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Classroom co-ops beginning to pay generous dividends

by Richard Garner



Pupils at John Reddies School, Prestegne, have been growing house plants for sale.

Business life is flourishing in schools – if not in the world outside – according to the National Union of Teachers' 1985 careers guide.

Around 850 of the 5,000 secondary schools in England and Wales now have pupils operating mini-enterprises as a gateway to learning about being self-employed or running their own companies, says one of the contributors to the guide, Mr Tony Watts, director of the National Institute for Careers Education and Counselling.

Many schools have started their own mini-production companies – some of which actually become involved in buying and selling goods – under the School Curriculum Industry Project. And some are being sponsored by major business concerns such as the Abbey National and Shell.

One group of school-leavers in Surrey formed their own cooperative – called "Instant Muscle" – which provides odd-job men and women for gardening and carpentry work. This project has now been launched in other parts of the country.

However, Mr Watts warns: "In some ways, it is ironic that the concept of 'education for enterprise' should have attracted attention at a time of high unemployment. Taken in its narrow sense, it is in many respects much easier to set up 'enterprises' when the economy is buoyant."

Most of the guide is given over to an assessment of the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative, with Mr

Harry Dowson, NUT executive member from Sheffield, saying that schemes in some schools only do for the very able while others do for the lower ability range only.

"If the Government really has in the mind of the TVET, and is engaged in a cosmetic exercise, it must accept the cost of some application," he adds.

However, Mr John Watts, director of the TVET unit at Manpower Services Commission, argues that the object of TVET, "widen and enrich the curriculum, way that will help young people prepare for the world of work, develop skills and interest, and creative abilities, that will help them lead a fuller life and to be able to contribute more to the life of the community."

"Whilst it is too early to make judgements about the results of the project, the response from teachers above all from the staff and the participating schools and colleges has been extremely encouraging," says.

The NUT Guide to Careers is available from the Teacher Publications Company, Derbyshire House, 88B, Price £1.50p including post and packing.

Regular use of schools outside hours is on the increase

by Geraldine Hackett

Greater use is being made of schools outside school hours and during school holidays, according to a survey carried out by the Department of Education and Science.

It shows an increase in the regular use of schools compared with the last survey in 1978-79.

Secondary schools are still more widely used than primary schools, mainly because they have specialist sports facilities. But primary schools are being used more regularly during term time.

Overall, 79 per cent of schools are used regularly during term time and 23 per cent during holidays, compared with 71 per cent in term time and 21 per cent in holidays five years ago. The survey looked at 10 per cent of primary schools and 20 per cent of secondary schools during the summer holiday and autumn term of 1983.

In primary schools the school hall is most in demand, whereas sports facilities are the most commonly used facility in secondary schools. Only 11 per cent of primary schools have specialist sports places, compared with 89 per cent of secondary schools.

During term time, school pupils and teachers are the most frequent users of schools out of hours. During holidays, secondary schools are used most frequently by organized groups.

Musical and other cultural groups are also regular users of schools. Secondary schools are used more often than primary schools, and within secondary schools, county schools are used more often than voluntary secondary schools.

Few geographical differences were detected by the survey. The differences among primary schools and between primary schools and secondary schools were linked to the number of facilities available in schools.

During term time, 75 per cent of primary schools are used regularly, compared with 99 per cent of secondary schools.

Schools were asked to identify those factors which limited out-of-hours use, and although only 11 per cent of primary schools and 32 per cent of secondary schools answered the question, primary schools mentioned "lack of storage space" and secondary schools listed most frequently "grassed playing fields already used to capacity".

Hire charges are invariably decided by local education authorities but in county secondary schools lettings are usually authorized by the headteacher. In voluntary schools, governors are more often responsible for authorizing lettings.

1.5 million still in classes of 30 plus

Nearly 1.5 million children were still being taught in classes with more than 30 pupils last year, according to figures released by the Department of Education and Science.

Two-thirds of the children being taught in large classes

were in primary schools, the figures show. But there were twice as many secondary pupils in the largest classes with more than 40 pupils.

Numbers of children in schools by size of class (England, January 1984)					
Number of pupils in class	30 or fewer pupils	31-39 pupils	40-49 pupils	50-59 pupils	60 or more pupils
Classes taught by one teacher					
Primary	2,806,928	798,447	87,388	7,747	3,749
Secondary	2,899,803	383,704	12,788	3,218	1,000
Classes taught by two or more					
Primary	72,908	34,808	18,051	46,044	17,100
Secondary	40,001	12,848	7,051	104,884	18,400
All classes	2,879,837	833,255	105,439	53,791	21,149
Primary	2,879,837	833,255	105,439	53,791	21,149
Secondary	40,001	12,848	7,051	104,884	18,400

CEOs may join new trade union

Chief education officers and their deputies are to be bailed out as they want to join a new trade union which will represent the top school, local government.

At present, about 1,000 CEOs are represented in a number of different ways by the Association of Education Officers, a wing of the Education Officers' Union, which is being negotiated by the pay of local government personnel from the beginning of next year.

The MPOU currently has 20,000 members and its chief executive, Mr. 26, says that the union will negotiate the pay of senior local government officers – but it will not recognize on the national level for all town hall while the union is the chief executive of the National and Local Government Officers' Association.

The AEO's advice to the union is that they should not join the MPOU. The union is set up, it could not be sent upwards of 40,000 local government employees.

The ballot is being held in May. The results will be known in the summer. Negotiations on the pay claim – which has not yet been agreed – will start on July 1 – will be out under the existing agreement.

Mark Jackson looks at the many talents of Alun Gronow, poised to take up his post as the new secretary of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities

A demanding role in Burnham's drama

The former head of English at De Stafford county secondary in Caterham is a gifted amateur actor who has played Iago and Adolf Hitler. This week he appeared at London's Charing Cross hotel in a major supporting role in that long-running saga, the Burnham negotiations on teachers' pay.

The talented Mr Alun Gronow was not there to deploy his declamatory skills on behalf of his former colleagues. He has taken his seat with the employers, as befits the future top bureaucrat of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities.

At 53, Mr Gronow is about to succeed to the AMA secretaryship, the first education professional to become chief executive of either of the main local authority associations. It is unlikely that he would ever have got anywhere near the job if he hadn't literally talked his way out of the education service a few years ago.

The local authority associations do employ thoroughly experienced specialists to advise them on education service matters, but they give the top management jobs to finance men or administrators, whether from town hall or Whitehall. Alun Gronow probably has wider practical experience of the local education service than most people who work under him, but that has given him at best a few bonus points in his rapid climb to the top.

Ten years ago he was an assistant education officer for Surrey, where he was born and schooled, taught for 12 years, and served as a local inspector.

Hit by rapidly declining rolls, the authority faced the need to reduce its teacher force and to amalgamate or close schools. The local education politicians knew that it would be unpopular with parents and the education department knew that there would be difficulty with the teachers. Both prepared to weather the approaching storm with bowed heads and civic fortitude.

But Alun Gronow, on what was then the lowest tier of the departmental hierarchy, could not bring himself to share this passivity. Responsible for the teacher branch, he was convinced that teachers were just as capable of

though his acting experience obviously helps him there, and he does prepare his script meticulously beforehand. He masters the facts and figures and grasps their significance quickly. But above all, he's very direct and warm, and marvellous at establishing an understanding. He's not afraid to trust people, and they trust him. I'm delighted that he's got the job."

Alun Gronow himself suspected that his particular talents were unlikely to flourish fully within the confines of a suburban education department. His chance to appear on a bigger stage came in 1978 with a job at LACSAB, the central agency which advises local authorities on personnel and pay matters and serves the Burnham employers' panel. He had become head of the department which deals with education staff by the time he left for the Association of Metropolitan Authorities three years later.

At LACSAB, Alun Gronow had demonstrated outstanding aptitude for staff negotiation at a national level and, more important, for the rather esoteric craft of securing consensus action by local government politicians who are happier denouncing each other.

But his defined area had still been the education service; and the significant

"Those of us working at the higher levels of local government should keep our feet on the ground"

stance of his move to the AMA was that it unshackled him from that specialism.

He went there as the under secretary for manpower, with responsibilities that stretched across the whole field of local government industrial relations. Two years later he was the association's deputy secretary, and able to start applying to the AMA's own 60-odd staff the open and collaborative management style that had impressed Ernest Tweddle earlier. He sees no reason why they should stop using his Christian name now.

Sir Ashley Bramall, the former ILEA leader, with whom he had worked closely for a time, commends Alun Gronow's professionalism and objectivity, and his ability to get people together.

For his part, Alun Gronow reveres Sir Ashley's intellect and the breadth of his knowledge; but confesses that he gets along better with the more extrovert politicians like Mrs Nicky Harrison, education committee chairman. Sir Ashley particularly appreciates Alun Gronow's loyalty to the Labour-controlled association's policies because he assumes that, with his Surrey background, he is a strong Tory.

Curiously enough, Ernest Tweddle and others in the Surrey department had always believed him to be somewhere on the Left. Alun Gronow is very pleased that neither side feels it can claim him as its own.

He says that political activity plays no part in his private life; but that community activity certainly does. "I think it important that those of us who work at the higher levels of local government should keep our feet on the ground and the best way of doing that is to be very much an active part of your own community," he says.

Being part of the community has meant, until recently, coaching at an athletics club near his Woking home as well as acting in amateur dramatics. It is a combination of interests that goes back to his London University days, when he sprinted for the university in between rehearsals.

While there's a slot for him in Burnham, Alun Gronow will fill it, trying to ensure that his presence

PROFILE



Alun Gronow: no claims from either side.

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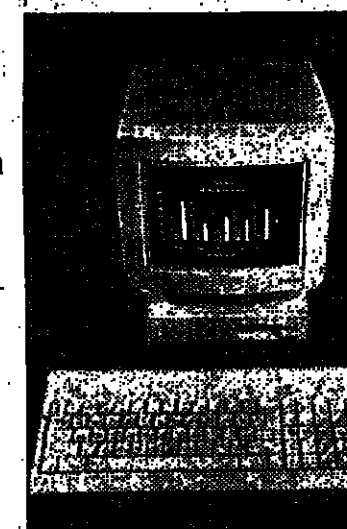
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Action and adventure top the reading list

by Jane Pickard

Children want more fiction in their school libraries—with Enid Blyton top of the list, according to a survey of reading habits.

The survey, of 332 top junior pupils and 305 third year secondary pupils in Rochdale, was part of an area inspection of school library provision by Her Majesty's Inspectorate.

Results of questionnaires showed that children prefer reading to themselves to reading aloud, don't like poetry and want more advice on what to read.

Asked to complete the statement: "I wish that books . . .", three secondary pupils wrote: ". . . had never been invented."

But comments on poetry range from "boring", "rubbish" and "silly", to "more for girls" and "there's nothing to learn from it".

In only one school surveyed, a primary, was poetry popular, with 79 per cent of girls and 50 per cent of boys declaring enthusiasm.

Asked what they wanted out of books, most pupils wished they were more exciting, interesting and adventurous, with the biggest demand among secondary pupils for more illustrations.

Pupils disliked books that were long, thick and boring. But they liked sport-related books—with boys opting mainly for football and girls for horses—and expressed an overwhelming wish for more fiction.

Enid Blyton was the most frequently mentioned author—one girl explaining "because there's always something going on"—with other references to a range of authors from Roald Dahl to Jules Verne.

Secondary pupils had what the inspectors found a surprising interest in more horror books.

The best comment probably came from 18 primary pupils, who when asked to complete the sentence "I wish there were more books about . . ." regarded the statement as complete—and agreed.

Inspectors, who also visited libraries at the 13 schools in the Heywood

township, urged all schools to consider framing library policies as part of the broader curriculum.

They also suggest that the local authority reviews the wide range of expenditure on books. The percentage of capitation spent on library books went from nothing in 1970 to 15 per cent in 1982/83 in the primary schools visited, and the number of books per pupil from 6 to 26—although the school spending nothing was one with the second highest number of books.

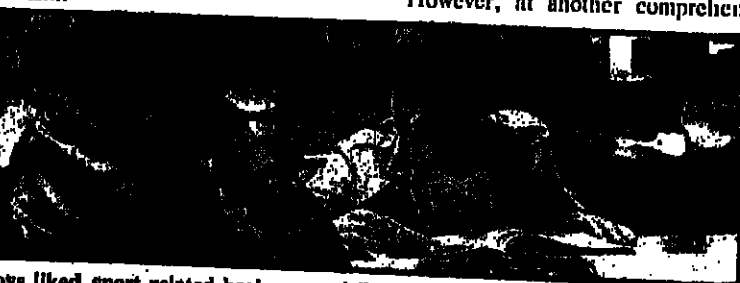
Inspectors also say there is a need for half the schools to match the high standards set in others, where children could browse and read quietly in attractive and comfortable settings.

But they say all schools are making encouraging efforts to develop their staff libraries and commendable efforts to supply non-book materials.

More work to tackle the problems of low-ability pupils is urged in a report on Fitzalan Comprehensive School in Cardiff.

The school was the first comprehensive to be opened in the city, and faced a number of problems, the report said. These included the site—which was on the edge of its catchment area with three separate buildings—and the wide range of abilities and cultural differences among pupils.

Inspectors say it is to the school's credit that it meets the needs of most pupils and has gained and kept the support of the community. But remedial classes, work with slow-learners and a unit for pupils with moderate learning difficulty came in for some criticism.



Boys liked sport-related books, especially books about football.

HMI reports

HMI reports are available free of charge from the Department of Education and Science, Publications Department, Honeywell Lane, Stanmore, Middlesex HA7 1AZ. Also available from L.E.A.s.

ive school in West Sussex it was the pupils of average ability who produced less satisfactory work.

During a short inspection of Angmering School, these pupils were said to be less well motivated and an undercurrent of noise was noted in a significant number of lessons.

Inspectors said much depended on the expectations of individual teachers, and pupils responded well to a firm, business-like approach.

But able teachers achieved satisfactory and sometimes good standards of work while the least able gave of their best.

The school also had the Lavinia Norfolk Unit for Physically Handicapped and Hearing Impaired pupils attached to the main building and a "commendably high level of integration" took place between the two.

Levels of achievement were also said to be uneven at Countess Comprehensive in Oldham.

Inspectors acknowledge the problems of the school, which is categorized as social priority and about half of whose pupils are from economically disadvantaged families.

It also has a split site, resulting from its origins as two schools—a grammar and secondary modern. The first year in the old secondary modern building and inspectors believe that this led to insufficient liaison in some subjects between teachers of the first year and multi-school departments.

But they say the effectiveness of the pastoral system needs to be reflected in academic life. They suggest a reappraisal of teaching methods, to match learning experiences of the children to their "undoubted potential".

Expectations and challenges needed to be raised, particularly for the more and least able. They note that a great deal of the teaching is directed towards the whole class, leading to a focus on pupils of average ability, with "serious implications for those who are at the extremes of the learning spectrum".

Computer advisers get group

by Virginia Makins

A national association for local authority computer advisers was formed last week at a conference in Milton.

Opening the conference, Mr. H. Bacon, Derbyshire's adviser for computers in education, said that there was an urgent need for the computer advisers to talk and work together.

They had vast in-service training responsibilities, and were concerned with all stages of educational technology and with all curriculum subjects.

It rapidly became apparent that there was plenty to talk about. Open talks on the future of computer use, approaches to in-service training, and promoting the use of educational technology across the secondary curriculum, and the cost of producing software, revealed many dilemmas and difficulties.

One important question on education could keep up with technology after the end of the wave of capital investment, which had just begun to reveal some of its possibilities.

The government Microelectronics Education Programme is due to start in March 1986, and the advisers will have some time discussing what should place it.

There seemed general agreement that MEP in its present form was appropriate for the next stage of development. But a national agency, staffed with people of appropriate educational expertise, with national funds to distribute, still essential.

The agency should promote curriculum and software development, disseminate high quality software, affordable prices for schools, and a central duplication of effort. There was also an urgent need for a national information centre for local authorities.

The chairman of the new Association of Advisers for Computer Education, Mr. Bryan Weaver of the Inner London Education Authority.

The principal of Countesthorpe College, Leicestershire's best-known "progressive" secondary school, has suspended its ultra-democratic system of management.

Mr Chris Evans believes the system of "participatory democracy", where all staff, and sometimes students and parents, could take part in the school's management, has proved incapable of taking necessary decisions about curriculum and resources.

Countesthorpe, a 14 to 18 upper school, opened in 1970 with the explicit aim of rethinking "the total process of learning within a school". In its first five years it evolved new frameworks for management and teaching.

All management decisions which normally fall to the head and senior staff were taken by rotating committees in which all staff took part.

On the curriculum side, Countesthorpe evolved a system of team teaching, or "minischools", which organized the work of students on a negotiated and individual basis.

Teaching was shared between the "team", and some independent specialist departments, and increasingly, specialist teachers in subjects like art and science came into the teams.

The idea was that students should work with teachers who knew them very well, and could organize a much more coherent programme and better support than could be achieved by a system based on subject departments.

The school survived a great deal of political opposition and some parental anxiety in its early years, and gained wide recognition as a successful "progressive" school. This year it was one of the winners of the School Curriculum Award.

But by September 1983 the principal and some teachers felt that the organization set up in the early 1970s needed to change to meet the new pressures of the 1980s.

With falling rolls beginning to affect the area, the strains on the school are increasing. It does not help that the school is always in the public eye: the smallest incident can be blown up into headlines.

Each year about 80 parents who live in the catchment area now opt to send their children elsewhere. About 20 a year come in from outside the area. Teachers believe that it's the more academic families who reject the school.

More seriously, the school's exam results have been very patchy, and appeared last year to be getting worse. The school's best subjects are English and social studies, where well over the national average of leavers continue to get good qualifications.

In the summer of 1983 16 per cent of fifth-years gained five or more O levels

Virginia Makins reports on the internal strife and external pressures that are forcing an innovative comprehensive to change its course.

The pioneer that began to lose its way

curriculum. Countesthorpe teachers are outstanding. But once matters come to the level of general policy decisions, rhetoric and endless talk about processes take over from hard curriculum questions.

Teachers say that the rhetoric—or slanging—can get rather unpleasant at times, with some groups of staff branding people who propose compromise as "management lackeys".

After a series of "moots"—the policy-making forum of the school—early this year, a new management structure was voted in. There would be an "open forum" for general discussion of issues, but also a "liaison committee", with members nominated by teams and subject areas, to bring more continuity and accountability into the management of the school.

The final moot voted in this system—but three of the seven teams refused to nominate a permanent representative to the new committee, saying they would share representation between them.

Mr Evans has rejected any idea of representatives from the teams, believing that a permanent committee, prepared to take responsibility for consistent policy-making and accountability, is essential.

He has also rejected a compromise proposal by a teacher, Mr Bob Evans, that there should be a permanent liaison committee—but that any member of staff should have the right to turn up and vote.

The principal believes that would, once again, lay the way open to unproductive lobbying and rhetoric; and that the school cannot risk another year of indecision.



Built to last? Countesthorpe is under increased strain as a result of falling rolls.

"Just one letter could win £400 for your school!"

-says Judith Chalmers

Children and teenagers can win valuable cash prizes for themselves and their schools—and have fun—in the 1985 Post Office Letter Writing Competition. Makes a really worthwhile project for your classes, too!

These are the four age groups:

A) Under 8; B) 8 to 10; C) 11 to 13; D) 14 to 16 (Ages on 31 August 1985.)

These are the subjects:

Group A: "A letter to my granny"
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Group D: "I wish you were here"

And these are the prizes:

The regional first prize winners in each age group will receive £100 in National Savings plus £75 for their school. And the overall national champion in each age group wins a further £250 plus an additional £325 for their school. There are lots of runners-up and consolation prizes too.

The national panel of judges will include Judith Chalmers, TV personality and travel journalist. Closing date for entries is 2nd April 1985.

The Post Office

Prizes for schools are donated by The Post Office and the following member firms: Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond, Basilston Bond.

More special training call

All teacher training should include at least an introduction to the teaching of children with special needs, according to the National Confederation of Parents' Teacher Associations.

In its response to the Department of Education and Science paper, *The Organization and Content of the Curriculum for Special Schools*, the NCPA says that the identification of children with special needs should be an important feature of teacher training courses.

It suggests that teachers in special schools should have relevant qualifications as well as experience of teaching in mainstream schools. Teachers in both fields would have the chance to meet regularly and exchange ideas.

Mainstream schools must have extra units and classes to provide for children who need extra support.

Clean sweep

Mr Richard Rleser has lost the general secretariatship of the 13,500-strong Inner London branch of the National Union of Teachers—two years after branch.

The election results show a clean sweep for candidates supported by the Socialist Teachers' Alliance, a left-wing group, largely controlled by Labour Party members, against the ultra-right Rank and File candidates. The new general secretary will be Mr Mike Loxley, from Southwark, who polled 1,431 votes against Mr Rleser's 1,314 in a 20 per cent poll. Mr Rleser, a deputy head at Holland Park school, became vice-president.

Pensions top agenda

by Richard Garner

Teachers have voted to give top priority to discussing their pensions according to a ballot of National Union of Teachers' branches held to fix the agenda for the union's annual conference in Scarborough at Easter.

A majority of teachers cast their votes in favour of placing a motion calling for a national premature retirement scheme for all teachers above 55 and opposition to any government move to end index-linking of pensions or increase contributions first on the final agenda.

A motion calling on the conference to support local authorities who refuse to comply with government rate-capping legislation with action "up to and including strike action" has been voted into second place.

Spending switch 'unfair'

A plan to remove adult education in Birmingham from the jurisdiction of the education service and give it to the leisure department could create "super" and "Cinderella" schools in the city, it was claimed last week.

Mrs Ann Baker, the incoming president of the Birmingham Association of the National Union of Teachers, told the union's annual meeting that the plan—designed to boost community use of leisure facilities—could identify between 18 and 23 schools for capital investment projects to enable them to become more frequently used.

"Since leisure services appear to have these sums of money, but the school service does not, we must pose ourselves the question 'What happens to those schools not identified as 'super' schools in the plan?'", she asked.

Malcolm Muggeridge & The Children's Society AWARD FOR YOUNG AUTHORS 1985
The Children's Society

DETAILS

Age categories: 10-14 years, 15-17 years, 18-20 years, 21-25 years, 26-30 years, 31-35 years, 36-40 years, 41-45 years, 46-50 years, 51-55 years, 56-60 years, 61-65 years, 66-70 years, 71-75 years, 76-80 years, 81-85 years, 86-90 years, 91-95 years, 96-100 years.

Prizes: £100 for the winner, £50 for the runner-up, £25 for the third prize, £10 for the fourth prize, £5 for the fifth prize, £2 for the sixth prize, £1 for the seventh prize, £0.50 for the eighth prize, £0.25 for the ninth prize, £0.10 for the tenth prize.

Entries should be sent to: The Children's Society, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0PH. Closing date: 31st August 1985.

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Clwyd clashes with MSC over success of scheme

A local authority is in difficulty with the Manpower Services Commission because it has been too successful in extending the Technical and Vocational Education Initiative throughout its schools.

Commission officials are insisting that the money they provide should be spent only on the limited number of pupils officially participating in the pilot programme.

Clwyd, one of the handful of authorities which has been in the programme from its start two years ago, has won commendation from MSC chiefs and educationists for its wholehearted and imaginative TVEI operations.

In one school the head started out with four out of every five of his fourth year on the TVEI curriculum, instead of the one in five the MSC specified. This year the whole of the fourth year has chosen TVEI, with more pupils than ever aiming at O and A levels and the higher ability pupils planning to enter for more subjects than they would otherwise have tried.

At the same time the authority is extending the TVEI programme from the five schools funded by the MSC to the rest of its 16 secondaries.

Clwyd is providing the money for the additional schools to operate the new curriculum but expected the schools already in the programme to provide for their extra "unofficial" TVEI pupils out of the generous funding they get from the MSC.

But the MSC now says that the money it is providing must all be spent on the 250 pupils at the five schools specified in their contract with the authority. And it is sending in its own inspection teams to make sure that is done.

Mr Adrian Farlam, the county's TVEI coordinator, says that the additional schools being funded by the authority are only getting in the first year of the programme. Each of the MSC-funded schools received last year. So while the schools' officiality in the programme can afford two extra teachers and a full time technician each, the others have to make do with one full time teacher and half the services of a technician.

The Commission's officials are happy to allow all the pupils in the official TVEI schools to use equipment paid for out of MSC money, but insist that



In focus: a pupil at Emrys ap Iwan school, Abergele who is on the TVEI media studies module.

They should not be taught by the TVEI staff.

It means, says Mr Farlam, that there are some classes - mainly in high technology - that the pupils not on the MSC's list cannot attend. He says: "It seems a rather curious policy, since the MSC has been so enthusiastic about what we are doing and in particular the fact that we are getting the whole ability range."

"That is of crucial importance be-

Agency offers £10 YTS recruitment bonus

A private training agency has been offering a bounty to trainees to persuade their friends to enlist in its Youth Training Scheme. The Manpower Services Commission did not know about the offer, although one of its former officials heads the agency concerned.

The agency, Cosma Management Centre Limited, manages trainees who are placed with hi-fi and computer stores throughout Britain. They include some of the biggest retail chains in this field.

Their method of recruiting came to light after a copy of a duplicated letter on their headed paper which was circulating among YTS trainees at a Louthian college came into the hands of The YTS Scotland.

The letter, signed by a Mr David Kirk, who is one of the firm's executives, is headed "Winter Bonus" and says that some trainees have already taken advantage of the £10 bonus being offered to those who introduce a friend and adds that it will continue to include any trainee who starts before April 1.

"If you have a friend who is interested in any of our schemes just call Oxford 241070 and leave the rest to us. Your friend has to last on their scheme at least one month and then we pay you £10."

The letter contains a number of grammatical and punctuation errors. The Oxford number appears at the head of the letter under the company's name and a statement that it was formerly the Oxford International Business School.

But the heading also lists its "youth training division" at a former state home, Croome Court near Worcester. The agency's chief executive, Mr David Sugar, says that the house and its 37-acre estate are used to provide a total of eight weeks residential training in two-week blocks for the trainees, who also get off-the-job instruction in the localities where they are doing their work placement.

Nine full-time tutors are employed there, he says, and another five regional staff carry out the local training. Some of them, he says, are the agency's former YTS trainees.

They were spotted as "a cut above the rest" and taken on to monitor their successors and to help in the training. The rest of the regional staff were "personnel people, mainly from the

sales management side". Trainees, in addition to the set training at a centre, are given a wide choice as to how to spend the rest of their off-the-job training, including do-it-yourself projects.

Cosma was originally set up to provide specialized management training in the software field explained by Sugar but is now concentrating only on the YTS. And in order to break even on its operation, it needs to find around 900 trainees. "We are operating on a deficit, like many other YTS agencies, because of our belief that a scheme will grow to the point where we are able to make a profit."

Because it is so vital to reach target numbers, says Mr Sugar, the firm's executives have spent a great deal of time trying to work out ways of getting to potential recruits. "It seemed a good idea, but it has been only three so far," he said. "I was under the impression that the £10 ended this month. He could not understand why the letter was circulating in college, since it had been sent only to Cosma's own trainees."

Mr Sugar said that he had joined the company in November from the MSC's Large Companies Unit, where he was a senior training adviser looking to vet and monitor agencies such as the one he was now working for. The LCU deals with organizations managing schemes nationally, who are controlled by the area manager team which approve the bulk of the schemes.

Mr Sugar had not consulted his former colleagues over the bonus, because he thought it was a legitimate means of recruiting. There could hardly be a question of unfair competition for trainees, as practically all the managing were subsidizing their places in one way.

An MSC official said that the £10 had not been heard about the bonus, but would check now to make sure their contract with Cosma was not being infringed. It appeared unlikely since they left it to managing agencies to advertise for trainees in whatever way they thought fit.

Edited by Mark Jackson

Project aims to make writing more popular

by Susannah Kirkman

The School Curriculum Development Committee has launched a national writing project to extend the range of writing in schools.

The three-year programme will look at writing throughout the curriculum and from all age groups to encourage continuity and a variety of styles. Studies by the Assessment of Performance Unit have shown that, while pupils value writing as part of English, they do not pay the same attention to style in other subjects.

The committee hopes schools will consider ways of applying computer technology to the development of writing skills, as well as using the local community as a resource for writing. The project will also foster links with industry and commerce to gear writing to the world of employment.

But the main focus is on teachers of all subjects developing their own local initiatives, which the SCDC will then disseminate. The model for the scheme is a San Francisco "writing as learning" project which started 10 years ago as a workshop for a few interested teachers, and has now become a Federal plan, with groups all over the United States.

"The project should be popular and populist, responding to teachers' needs," Mr Keith Kirby, an SCDC officer, explained.

The SCDC ultimately aims to establish a network of teachers' groups throughout the country so that successful schemes can be widely applied.

Between 10 and 20 education authorities are expected to become involved with the project initially.

Right to time off reversed

An employment appeals tribunal has ruled that the Association of Polytechnic Teachers should not have the right for its health and safety representative to be granted time off, at a polytechnic where a third of the staff belong to the union.

In reaching its decision, the tribunal reversed the findings of an earlier industrial tribunal which had stated that the APT had the right to appoint a health and safety representative at Teesside Polytechnic, who would be granted time off for his duties.

The APT plans to take the case, against Cleveland County Council, to the Court of Appeal. It is expected to be heard later this month.

The tribunal upheld the fact that APT was recognized for the purpose of negotiations at the polytechnic, but ruled this did not allow them to have time off for a safety representative as well.

It pointed out that Cleveland County Council had refused to grant APT recognition for "collective bargaining" throughout the authority on three occasions.

Dr Tony Pointon, national secretary of the APT, said the decision was "anti-trade-union" and put the law of Health and Safety at Work back to the days when industrial anarchy and militant tactics were the only routes to recognition.

'Check labs' warning on explosives

Schools throughout Britain have been warned to check chemistry laboratories following the discovery of a powerful explosive at a number of schools in Sheffield.

The alert was raised by South Yorkshire County Council's hazardous chemical collection team which is concerned that stores of picric acid, said to be explosive than TNT in its dry unstable state, could be lying forgotten in store cupboards.

Picric acid is a poisonous yellow crystalline, bitter acid used in dyes and was used in schools for organic chemistry preparations. The acid is also used in industry, particularly in the Sheffield area, for etching steel.

Army bomb disposal teams have already destroyed cases of the chemical - used originally in industrial processors - discovered in schools and industrial premises in South Yorkshire. At one school the chemical was found to be so unstable that disposal experts refused to transport it by road. They later destroyed it with explosives in school playing fields.

Mr Ken Willers, who controls the hazardous chemical collection service, warned "Picric acid is being found at numerous schools and industrial premises in South Yorkshire. We are concerned that this could be a problem of national proportion and we urge everyone holding stocks of chemicals to be on the lookout".

£72,000 grant

The United Kingdom Council for Overseas Student Affairs (UKCOSA) which gives information and advice to overseas students and the Institutions they attend, is to receive regular Government funding. It will get a grant of £72,000 in 1985-86.

NEWS

Books cut prompts fear of Soviet infiltration

by Richard Garner

Cuts in the British Council's budget this year for sending books overseas, has prompted fears that this could present the Soviet Union with a propaganda opportunity.

Council leaders have just agreed £1.1 million worth of cuts - brought about because of a reduction in government aid to its projects for 1985-86. This year's budget is now £83.9 million - amounting to a total cut of 22 per cent since 1979.

The immediate impact of the decision is that a new British Council office due to be opened in Shanghai will be postponed, the office in Oporto will be closed, as will an English language institute in Venezuela. The number of books sent overseas will be reduced.

However, council officials fear the reduction in books sent overseas could open up huge markets for the Soviet Union - which has already flooded India with cheap English language books.

A spokesman said: "The cut cannot be good for Britain overseas. For instance, China is looking to the West for help with its vast modernization programme. We have 300 Chinese students in Britain and there are 15,000 in the United States. Who is likely to get China's increased student intake as a result of the cuts?"

"Also, the books cut makes it more difficult for the Council to meet the increasing demand for the English language and British books abroad."

Cuts already made have forced the Council to close 10 regional offices in the United Kingdom and withdraw representation from six countries - Afghanistan, Argentina, Iran, Malta, Mauritius and Costa Rica. Any further cuts will lead to more closures.

Institute principal dies

Dr Ron South, CBE, principal of the City Literary Institute, London, until last year, has died at home following a short illness. Dr South, who was

shortly to retire, entered teaching in inner London in 1952 and had been the institute's principal since 1968. He leaves a wife and three children.



Lord Whitelaw inspected works by Graham Sutherland, Picasso, Stubbs and Turner in the Goldsmiths' College Art Gallery last week. He also visited the George Wood Theatre where drama students were preparing for their final BA examinations and saw ceramics teachers engaged in improving their specialist techniques in the college's newly extended and re-equipped pottery.

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NEWS

Ulster teachers seek tougher line on expelled pupils

by Carmel McQuaid

expel rests solely with them.

A letter has now been sent to the Department of Education by the Ulster Teachers Union (UTU), insisting on an immediate ruling that children expelled from other sectors be given alternative education within that sector.

"Voluntary schools are a law unto themselves. It appears to us unjust that such schools can wash their hands of disruptive pupils and the law obliges the principal teachers of controlled schools to accept them," says Mr Dave Allen, UTU secretary.

In the past UTU members, with the cooperation of other unions, have blatantly flouted the law and refused to teach disruptive pupils though this puts them in breach of contract. "We have had to do this on a few occasions but such occasions would appear to be increasing," Mr Allen says.

"It has now been suggested that the Departments set up special facilities within each sector to cope with pupils who refuse to conform to normal classroom routine, and that these should be given additional finance. "It would be an intolerable situation if school authorities had to find such

resources from an already tight budget, indeed to do so may well impose a penalty on the overwhelming majority of well-disciplined pupils," the UTU says in its letter.

The southern education and training board has also entered the fray, with committee member Mr Richard Henson, a department head in Haringey School, seeking an assurance from headteachers would have a say in which children could be placed in voluntary schools.

During a discussion on the proposed rules proposed by the Department the board decided to ask the Government for clarification on the proposed rules for suitable education for expelled pupils.

Another group, the National Association of Schoolmasters and Union of Women Teachers, has pointed out that the controversy could be ended by special units for disruptive pupils, similar to the 239 operating in England, were set up.

This union, however, recognises that in some cases a change to another school can provide a new beginning where the pupil settles down and behaves more rationally.

OVERSEAS

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No snakes but more ladders in new game rules

Corruption and patronage has been replaced by a system of assessment for deciding promotion appointments in Mexican schools. As teachers in the United Kingdom grapple with the prospect of annual appraisal, John Farrand reports on how it works in one area.

A new system of teacher assessment has been introduced in Mexico which seems to have done much to raise teacher morale and restore faith in the system.

Most teachers belong to the SNTE (Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores de la Educación) - although in one of the constituent states, the State of Mexico (Estado de México), another union SMSEM (Sindicato de Maestros al Servicio del Estado de México) represents all education employees.

Under its governor, Alfredo del Mazo, and with the approval of SMSEM, the State of Mexico introduced last May a new system of promotion for those who work within the teaching profession, involving clearly defined criteria for each step up the ladder, and a system of points to determine who gets appointed.

Until then, the teaching profession had operated on the same basis as all other parts of Mexico, on patronage and perks, with all that implies in the way of corruption and inefficiency. One extreme case was that of a caretaker who became deputy head of a secondary school overnight - for no better reason than that he was related to the Director General of Education - with disastrous consequences for the working of the school to which he was appointed.

Now the State of Mexico has only 25 different posts within its teaching structure. Each post carries its appropriate salary on the overall scale; there is not a separate scale for each post, as operates under Burnham, and the size and social characteristics of the school make no difference to the amount of salary received. A small extra allowance for teachers who work in rural areas of the State has been negotiated, however.

To be given work at the most elementary level, a teacher needs only to have completed his secondary education. He may then become a permitted teacher, a supply teacher, an extra-curricular teacher or a trainer in literacy.

To achieve the grade of student teacher, he needs to have completed at least 50 per cent of his studies on a primary or nursery school course. Once he has completed these, he achieves the grade of qualified teacher.

Teachers at the secondary level work by the hour and are not required to stay in any school when they are not teaching. They need some knowledge of the appropriate subject and to be studying for a degree. Once qualified, they are restricted to a maximum



Secondary posts... open competition

of 19 hours per week of work at this level, making up their time with work at the primary level.

All the posts mentioned above are assigned through the administrative machinery. Posts above these levels are now won in open competition.

The machinery for determining these promotions is a joint commission, involving the educational administrators and the union officials. Many of the administrators will have been former union general secretaries.

The basic qualifications for teaching more than 20 hours, or for taking a counsellor's post are:

- to have a degree and three years teaching experience;
- to be half-way through a degree and have four years teaching experience;
- to hold the basic teaching qualification and to have five years teaching experience.

To become the administrative deputy head of a school a teacher needs either the basic teaching qualification and five years teaching experience; or a degree and three years experience.

To become a head, a teacher now needs the basic qualification with 13 years experience and four of them as academic deputy; or a degree and eight years experience, including at least three years as academic deputy.

To become a supervisor, he needs a teaching qualification and 19 years experience with at least six of them as head of a school; or a degree, 12 years experience in teaching and four of them as head.

Alternatively, heads may go on to become educational researchers. For this they need a degree and 14 years experience in teaching, two of them as head.

One of the objectives of the reform, apart from eliminating corruption, is

to give incentives to teachers to continue with their studies.

Appointments are determined by the number of points that a teacher has in his promotional profile. There are three elements: training (weighted 40 per cent), efficiency (35 per cent) and years of service (25 per cent).

The training points consist of 90 points for basic training, 80 for completing a first degree course, and a further 40 for a master's degree or a doctorate; and a further 20 points for the degree thesis having been accepted. A course lasting 25 hours counts for one point, and a certificate in a foreign or Indian language a further 20 points.

Each year of service within the State system counts for 10 points - but efficiency is the hardest aspect to measure. Each annual assessment counts for up to 15 points.

Ten aspects assessed in order of weighting, are performance, planning of work, use of appropriate teaching techniques, positive attitudes in class, attendance, duties, initiative, personality, interpersonal relations and personal hygiene.

Social, cultural and economic activities to benefit the school - including the construction of classroom, the introduction of drinking water, drainage and electricity, the maintenance of furniture and the planting of trees - are then taken into account. Getting a civic monument constructed, acquiring furniture or audio-visual equipment, and fundraising activities are also considered.

Cultural and research activities, publishing a book or an essay, organising lectures or delivering one are also considered under the efficiency appraisal - as is participation in activities of benefit to the community, training local people, promoting sporting events, sponsoring health campaigns and improving housing conditions.

Lastly, secondment to undertake work in the educational service or in the union is considered each year and scores five points. There is an extra point for participation with the union in the parade on May 1.

Informed sources report that this new scheme has captured the interest of the Federal Secretary for Education, Jesus Reyes Heróles, and that he is considering its adoption throughout the entire Federal school system. If this goes through, it should do much to eliminate corruption in education, and strike a powerful blow for President Miguel de la Madrid's policy of "moral renovation".

Mr Marshall Perron, has allocated to an un-named private developer. Instead he has suggested that the school make use of an alternative site, one to the west of the town. The School Council has rejected it because it believes the school, the land on which it is built and the town community should be together and the alternative site is unsuitable.

Residents of the Aboriginal town-camps have worked closely with researchers and teachers to develop a bilingual curriculum which takes local knowledge and experience into account. Yipirinya School goes out to the town-camps to teach; children learn their own language as well as English; and there are lessons and discussions about Aboriginal culture. The value and originality of the school for Aboriginal children has been acknowledged by the Northern Territory Government and it is now formally registered and recognized under the Education Act.

However, its staff work in cramped, uncomfortable metal huts, the schoolrooms at the town-camps are rudimentary, and the school has no land on which to build classrooms and offices for the research and administrative staff.

A piece of vacant Crown Land centrally located in the town has been found which is large enough for schoolrooms and playing grounds but - although the School Council's request for this land (known as Lot 5643, Yipirinya Terrace) has been before the Northern Territory Government for over a year, the Minister for Lands,

Despite the impending handover of Hong Kong to the Chinese, its government is still fighting shy of making the teaching of Chinese in schools compulsory. Honor Wilson reports.

Mother's tongue still losing out to Chinglish

A government-appointed education commission in Hong Kong has decided against recommending that Chinese should be a compulsory medium of instruction in schools.

It has instead opted for a series of proposals which favour those schools which use Chinese - while at the same time strengthening the teaching of English as a second language.

Ninety-eight per cent of the population in Hong Kong speak Cantonese as their first language. Most parents feel that if their children are to succeed in the international climate of the world's third largest financial centre, then English is essential. They therefore opt to send their children to schools which teach in English. These constitute 80 per cent of all secondary schools. Most primary schools teach in the mother tongue.

The short-term remit of the education commission was to consider key points of a report - the Llewellyn Report - produced by a panel of overseas experts two years ago. It gave a scathing account of the level of language use in Hong Kong classrooms.

It found that the standard of English by Cantonese teachers was low, and painted a depressing picture of teaching by "Chinglish". The report said that the use of English and Chinese was suffering, because of the continued fiction that children were being taught in English.

Many of the problems associated with Hong Kong schooling - excessive homework, quiescent pupils and rote learning in particular - were exacerbated by the use of English as the medium of instruction.

Reagan sharpens his knife

UNITED STATES

Bill Norris on why even Republicans oppose the President's education spending plans.

Education has been one of the major victims in President Reagan's bid to slash his budget deficit. As widely predicted, total Federal spending on education in 1986 will fall by \$2.4 billion to \$15.5 billion.

At the current rate of inflation, that represents a cut in real terms of some 17.3 per cent. Higher education has been hardest hit, with student aid slashed from \$7.9 billion to \$6.3 billion, but the cuts will be felt across the board.

It remains to be seen, however, how much of this will survive the budget's passage through Congress, which has the final say on spending. Almost before it had been delivered, many congressmen were declaring the budget "Dead on Arrival", and it is certain that compromises will be made before the measure becomes law. The contrast between reductions in expenditure on the domestic side, and the increase in defence spending of 13 per cent - which Mr Reagan, in a curious perversion of the English language, insists on calling a "cut" - has brought angry noises of dissent from both Democrats and Republicans.

Senator Robert Stafford, the Republican chairman of the Senate subcommittee on education, arts and the humanities, said the proposals were "Absolutely ludicrous and will meet with strong opposition." He added: "I would suggest that anyone advocating the elimination of a good portion of middle-income families from the guaranteed student loan programme does not understand the purpose of the loan programme. Our middle-class families have not asked for a free ride from the Federal Government, only limited assistance which the student will repay after leaving school."

On past form, many of the funds are likely to be reinstated, and this is especially true of the education reductions. Many Republican senators, facing re-election in 1986, see these cuts as potent vote-baiters in their middle-class constituencies. Mr Reagan may



face the same problems as Mrs Thatcher when it comes to cutting student grants, and for the same reasons.

Former Education Secretary Terrell H Bell had recommended before leaving office that education expenditure should be held at its present level of \$17.9 billion. He condemned the budget proposals, saying that they would "rob students and hurt colleges." "I realize the President needs to reduce the Federal deficit," Mr Bell added, "but I don't think Congress will go along with him on this."

There is a fear that many high school students will now be denied the chance to go on to university. The Reagan proposals will mean that more than a million of the 5.3 million students now receiving Federal aid would lose it altogether. Congress is being asked to impose a \$4,000 ceiling on total grants, loans and work study funds; to deny guaranteed student loans to those with family incomes above \$32,500, and to bar those whose parents earn more than \$25,000 from the basic Federal grants, work-study jobs, and national direct student loans. Interest on guaranteed loans which are granted will rise from 8 per cent to market levels.

"We think that millions of students - poor white and minority students - will lose the opportunity for higher education," said Dale Parnell, president of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges. Gary Jones, the acting Secretary for Education - who will be losing his job as soon as William Bennett is confirmed by the Senate - said: "I think to presume that students can't get into college because of this type of budget reduction is a little presumptuous. We would not be making these proposals had we thought they would deny college education to anyone."

OVERSEAS



Most parents choose to send their children to schools which teach in English.

The Education Commission has made several proposals which it hopes will encourage schools to make the switch to Chinese teaching - and encourage parents and pupils to follow.

At present schools in Hong Kong are known as either Anglo-Chinese or Chinese, and employers tend to favour school-leavers from Anglo-Chinese schools who sat their examinations in English. The commission proposes the removal of such labels from schools, and the removal of the language

indicator from the Hong Kong Certificate of Education.

Tertiary institutions and employers, it says, should assess language ability on language results and not on whether other subjects were taken in English or Chinese.

David Cheung, headmaster of Carmel English School, does not think many schools will change. "I'm a bit sceptical. Historically, graduates of Chinese schools have been handicapped with employment and tertiary studies opportunities. These proposals will definitely help their position, but

they do not amount to a fundamental change," he said.

Many parents fear that if their children go to Chinese schools they will be unable to speak English. The education commission recommends a one-off library grant for such schools to strengthen the teaching of English as a foreign language - and similarly proposes greater recruitment of English-speaking expatriates. It says more Chinese textbooks should be published so that all textbooks are available in either language.

Some education pressure groups in the territory are expressing disappointment that the commission did not opt for a clear directive that the mother tongue should be adopted. They feel that unless it becomes compulsory, schools will continue for the most part to teach in English. Anthony Ha, a teacher and spokesman for the Education Action Group, said: "You can't expect to change public opinion, schools will stick to teaching in English - and Chinglish - if they're given the choice."

"It means the Hong Kong education system will continue to reject many of its brighter pupils. They got so bored looking up words in a dictionary. I watch them learn to hate English language textbooks," said Mr Ha.

In its report, the education commission says: "We are not unaware of the very forceful arguments put forward in favour of mandating Chinese. We have decided against this approach in the belief that education should allow the greatest possible development for students having regard to their different needs and aptitudes." The Commission estimates that the cost of its language initiatives will be more than 600 million Hong Kong dollars (\$66 million).

Untying the school year from the farmer's tractor

FINLAND

Although seven out of every eight Finns now gain a livelihood from non-agricultural pursuits, the school year is still geared to the era when children were enlisted to help their parents harvest hay and rye.

Until about 15 years ago children went to school on Saturday mornings and had a three-month holiday from June 1 to August 31. With the switch to a five-day week, they resume school in mid-August, and holidays at Christmas and Easter remain brief. The week-

long skiing break in February is not matched with an autumnal half-term holiday.

Responding to medical studies that recorded a high degree of fatigue among teachers and pupils during the unremitting 16-week pre-Christmas slog, the national teachers' union, OAJ, says it will press for a week-long break as October gives way to November. It will raise the matter during the next negotiations on pay and conditions and suggests that the missing days be tagged on to the existing school year.

Donald Fields

Homework ban

The Turkish Government has reimposed a homework ban that covers 10 million schoolchildren.

Announcing the ban, Education Minister M Vehbi Dincerler called on parents to "report" teachers who disregarded it. Last summer, a similar restriction was imposed, reflecting the growing awareness that the rigid school reports system and a surfeit of examinations are turning childhood into a nightmare here.

However, children in danger of failing their summer exams and thus having to repeat a year will remain under pressure to study, while many private cramming schools have opened special intensive courses to run throughout the holiday period.

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Poor pay and conditions
make for low standards

Sir - In her two articles ("Schools for scandal" and "All work and no pay", TES, January 18) Sarah Jane Evans deals, respectively, with two of the most important issues in the EFL business: the need for a rigorous inspection system to monitor the standards of service which students receive, and the appalling conditions under which most language school staff are employed.

She does not make much of the connection between these two issues, but then she should not need to; the link should be obvious. Poor pay and conditions make for low standards. Conversely, if you want people to provide a professional service, then you should treat them like professionals.

However, this is a principle which the British Council's Recognition Scheme seems curiously reluctant to

acknowledge. At best there is a grudging acceptance that such a link may exist. The scheme's criteria for recognition pay lip service to the idea that staff should enjoy "satisfactory working conditions". Unfortunately, the inspectors hardly ever make the effort to find out whether even this very vague stipulation is met. And when they do, it seems the British Council prefers to turn a blind eye.

The British Council argues that these matters are simply not their concern. This is the line taken by Keith Stoney, an English Language Officer with the Council. If they are not happy with their school, he maintains, "teachers can vote with their feet." That, Mr Stoney can rest assured, is precisely what they do, even in the present economic climate. They are replaced by others who become disillusioned in their turn. In the trade these

phenomena are known as high turnover and low morale. They are both notoriously bad for teaching standards, but they are not enough to inspectors who can only visit a school for a day or two.

To ensure consistency, continuity and justice, the Recognition Scheme must take an interest in the material well-being of teachers and other language school staff. And they must do that effectively by giving language a say, through their union, in the way in which the scheme is run.

G.LYN JONES
International Language Teachers
(Central) Branch
Managerial, Advisory, Technical
Supervisory Association
17 Hazeldean Road
London NW10

much on a British point of view. It must be emphasized that EFL is not an international profession and cannot be compared with primary or secondary school teaching in this country where staff tend to work only a Britain.

JOHN HAYCRAFT
Director General
International House
106 Piccadilly
London W1

Lucid account

Sir - Sarah Jane Evans is to be congratulated on her very lucid account of conditions in the EFL industry.

At one point, however, she paints too rosy a picture. When she says the average full-time salaries are £7,000 in London and £6,000 elsewhere it does not mean that these figures are anywhere near correct for unqualified staff. Taking the average of pay in all EFL schools would yield much lower figures.

REBECCA WILKINS
Samuel House
Clarissa Street
London E8

their "bona fide" responses used to be. Why should this be so? We presume they responded honestly and were committed to their views, and were reproduced faithfully in the press. Perhaps they wished their views to be private and away from public scrutiny.

Yet Mr Alexander's point about independent schools' collaboration with researchers is a telling one. The implication is that such collaboration can take place only if the researchers are effectively prevented from approaching schools themselves. One might just as well ask how useful is such once drained of a critical faculty.

B. CASHMORE
Department of Sociology
University of Washington

Combating racism

Sir - Since Tom Haste accuses me of "intellectual dishonesty" (TES, February 1), may I be allowed to reply?

A Teachers' Guide to Multicultural Education is not concerned with "ethnocentricity". Nor does it suggest "objectivity". Even less does it claim an account of what Haste (writing as a historian) refers to as "the Indians". Rather, my book is about the need for teachers to challenge racist combat racism at every level of professional lives: the ideological, the institutional and the individual.

In omitting my mention, let alone discussion, of the notion of racism, it is central to my argument. Haste is in his duty as a critic.

JON NIXON
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in giving polys
university title

Sir - I was interested to read the account of the National Advisory Body's plans (TES, February 1), and in particular the reference to the possible use of the title "university" in public sector higher education. I note that the joint education committee responsible for the Middlesex Polytechnic is also currently addressing the issue. It is a real issue.

More than half the full-time equivalent students in higher education in England are now being educated outside the traditional universities. There are positive advantages in a national system of higher education in which the majority of students are in local institutions in the public sector - provided that the education offered is appropriate, the resources are adequate, the quality is satisfactory and the status is not inferior. It is NAB's responsibility to ensure that these conditions are met.

As I said at Hatfield Polytechnic last November, when I came to believe that the most effective way to achieve

parity of status and esteem for students in public sector higher education is to retitle institutions, I shall unhesitatingly join those who are calling for the title "university" for those polytechnics (together with a few major colleges) who, supported by their I.E.s, wish to adopt it. But if the retitling of our major public sector institutions is seen as an excuse for slipping the reins of validation and the discipline of quality assurance - then I should oppose it. If it is intended as a device to allow academic drift away from part-time and sub-degree work, and from responsiveness to the local and regional needs of employers - then I should oppose it. If it is understood as a step towards removing our major institutions from local authority control - then I shall oppose it. The first responsibility of public sector institutions is to provide access for the local and regional community.

CHRISTOPHER BALL
Chairman of the Board of the NAB

Evasive minister

Sir - While much of what you report about Sir Keith Joseph's visit to our school is true, we should like to say that the two teachers present were asked, not ordered, to leave the room and Sir Keith did not tell anyone to "sit down and shut up".

His manner in speaking to us, however, was patronising and evasive. He laughed at some of our questions, sighed at others and called us "stupid", "narrow-minded", "uncomprehending", "ignorant" and "uneducated". At no time did he attempt to answer questions in a reasoned way, but gave us the impression that he was only interested in knowing whether there were any good or bad teachers at this school.

B. GREEN
H. MORRIS
Sixth-formers
The Hill Wood School
Coventry

1984 assessment?

Sir - I was interested by "A question of assessment" (TES, February 1), since I was told of a similar incident at a local school last term.

On that occasion Sir Keith asked to be left to talk to senior girls without staff being present, and embarrassed at least one girl by asking her to comment on the quality of her teachers. According to my informant, he seemed disappointed when she



returned a reasonably complimentary answer.

It is hardly necessary to remind anyone that the most odious régime of this century encouraged children to report on adults, but since we are now in the post-1984 era one may perhaps recall the children of Winston Smith's neighbours in Victory Mansions. Is this really the kind of assessment the Secretary of State has in mind for us, and the kind of society he envisages?

PATRICIA MARTIN
Barnard Way
Rochford
Essex

Vocational needs

Sir - Lord Young's message to the Society of Education Officers (TES, February 1) was clear. More preparation for, and contact with, industry for both students and teachers.

The German system is often quoted as meeting these aims, to advantage. From the comments in the same issue of TES it can be seen that some people fear that industrial preparation leads to a narrow and therefore undesirable approach.

This need not be the case. Like many things in education, the ideals of good practice tend to move from one extreme to the other. Often a small change to the curriculum would be sufficient to cater for new demands. Usually a radical change is the solution adopted and this will last for 10 or 15 years until a new fashion suggests that it is time for change. Ironically, often the change is the re-adoption of what was discontinued some 10 or 15 years earlier.

There certainly are some misconceptions about vocational education. Some of us would argue that if it is vocational then it cannot be educational. Some would argue that if it is

educational then it cannot be vocational.

How narrow and shallow! The truth is that subjects in the curriculum can be both educational and vocational. The balance may vary, depending on the subject.

The Associated Examining Board has a number of syllabuses similar to those offered at the time of the technical school. Engineering workshop theory and practice in particular, at O level, comes to mind. It is based on educational aims and objectives and is seen as a passport to employment in many areas of the country. The fact that, as a secondary feature, it is vocationally relevant is a bonus. The vocational relevance is not to engineering only but to other industries and employment situations generally. The practical and theoretical skills incorporate transferable abilities which are sought by employers and other post-school opportunities.

Perhaps this is what Lord Young was saying. If so, I certainly agree with him.

GEORGE TURNBULL
The Associated Examining Board
Wellington House
Aldershot
Hampshire

Peace onslaught

Sir - Lady Olga Maitland, Baroness Cox and Dr John Marks have now moved into the local education authority arena in their onslaught on peace studies (TES, February 1). This is predictable as political witchhunting follows familiar lines. The line of onslaught on peace studies goes like this - pressure groups such as CND, individual teachers, people of religious and moral persuasions, individual schools, teaching unions, local education authorities and finally - their political opponent, the Labour Party. The objective of all this is obvious - education for political allegiance to the Conservative Party and Education for War (not necessarily connected).

In answer to enquiries the DES still posts copies of the UNESCO 1976 Recommendations concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace. L.E.s such as Newcastle who followed these recommendations should be congratulated and not maligned.

Dr John Marks is a subscriber to our newsletter and he knows the number of times I have protested to him about his habit of quoting out of context and of omitting important information. On every newsletter we state clearly that we do not use the classroom to recruit for any organisation. We welcome Sir Keith Joseph's sensible approach to complaints about teaching practices but we are worried about the narrow content of secondary school subjects like history and science.

In the UN Year of Youth let us think about the distressing effects we are having on the young people in our schools who are catching the idea that peace studies are the work of the devil and that violence and the build up of nuclear arms are the role of the day. Soon I expect some school or other with a programme of peace studies will undergo the kind of trial outlined in Colin Fletcher's *Schools on Trial*. I hope we can all ride the storm and come out clearer on the moral duties that we have to the young to discuss important issues which affect them such as peace and nuclear disarmament.

HILARY LIPKIN
Co-ordinator
Teachers for Peace
CND
Goodwin Street
London N4

Experiments

Sir - I wish to draw to the attention of your readers some inaccurate and misleading statements in the article (TES, January 18) relating to forthcoming changes in the law on experiments with live animals as they relate to school. The law refers to vertebrate animals only (excluding man) and therefore the use of insects for experiments in schools will not be forbidden. Experiments on live vertebrates will not be banned in the general terms described in the article.

It will still be possible to carry out behaviour experiments and direct observation of living vertebrates, indeed there are sound educational reasons for doing so. Destruction of the frog's brain (or that of any other vertebrate) will not be permitted but in any case this is not the "common" experiment that the article suggests.

Reference to the *Experiment* programme, produced by Granada Television for A level students, was also misleading.

It is a rare school that would have the equipment required to carry out such a procedure as the experiment is not "popular" and only of marginal relevance to A level work.

More important, though, is the principle of using videotapes or other audio-visual means, to illustrate experiments that are either difficult to carry out in schools or not permitted.

The proposed legislation, and indeed the RSPCA, encourages the use of audio-visual methods, where the educational objectives can be effectively achieved by that means.

ROGER LOCK
Department of Educational Studies
Oxford University

Letters for publication should be kept as brief as possible and typed on one side of the paper only. The Editor reserves the right to cut or amend them.

Courses

Drama in Education: A Social Process in School and for Society

1-13 September 1985 in Newcastle upon Tyne

Designed for administrators, lecturers and teachers who are interested in a careful examination of the processes of implementing a role-taking and depictive approach to learning situations, the aim of the course is to introduce participants to as many skills of this style of work as is possible in the time.

Directed by Mrs Dorothy Heathcote, the course has vacancies for 30 members and the residential fee is £595.

Humanistic Techniques and Methodologies for ELT Teacher Trainers

1-13 September 1985 in Canterbury

The course will open with a workshop on in-depth communication skills, followed by sessions on new techniques for the EFL classroom. The programme will also include a wide range of drama techniques for the classroom and work on the microcomputer in the EFL classroom.

Directed by Mario Rinaldi, the course is designed for experienced teacher trainers and has vacancies for 35 participants. The residential course fee is £675.

Communicative Language Testing

8-20 September 1985 in Lancaster

This seminar will explore the theory and practice of communicative language tests and examine the implications which innovation in test design has for testing theory and test validation.

Directed by Dr J. Charles Alderson, the course is intended for those practically involved in the design or administration of testing programmes or tests of English as a foreign or second language at secondary, tertiary or teacher training level. The residential fee is £590 and there are vacancies for 30 participants.

Microcomputers in Schools: an Opportunity for Development

16-27 September 1985 in Oxford

This course will be concerned with policy and practice related to the use of microcomputers and information technology in schools. Participants will be given the opportunity to assess innovative projects and practices and to gain considerable 'hands-on' experience of software and courseware.

Directed by Mike Aston, the course is designed for senior educational administrators, school inspectors/advisers, university lecturers, teacher educators and other senior staff concerned with computer education. There are vacancies for 30 participants and the residential fee is £640.

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TALKBACK

Primary message

DAPHNE KERSLAKE

The Department of Education and Science has recently issued a video which is designed to encourage more people to train for teaching in a primary school. A recent statement from the DES announces that, after a period of contraction, there is a need for more primary teachers.

It is a well-made and enticing film, depicting teachers working in a manner that does them credit. The classroom is portrayed as a place in which children are encouraged to develop a problem-solving approach, where they are not told what to do, but are encouraged to find out for themselves. There is an emphasis on activities which are across the curriculum, with, in one example, science, mathematics and language combining in an investigation of soap-bubbles.

Teaching is seen as a complex but rewarding activity: one in which there are seldom straightforward answers. It is said to require skills of management, since "you are your own boss in the classroom". The organizational skills of overseeing the learning environment of a class of children are emphasized, together with the joint responsibility for curriculum construction within the school and for relations with parents. The narrator observes, indeed, that it is unlikely that such responsibility would be given at the



same stage in any other career.

Contrast this with the recent DES document *The Organization and Content of the 5-16 Curriculum*. The philosophy of this is so different that one wonders whether the authors have ever even met the makers of the video.

The emphasis, unlike that on the video, is very much on "subjects" as a body of knowledge and skills, and there is only passing acknowledgement of the notion of cross-curricular activities. There is also a disturbing reference to the "removal of clutter" in the curriculum: one wonders whether the investigation of soap bubbles might be considered as clutter?

Indeed, the current trend towards a core-curriculum and to national criteria seems to contradict the message in the video of the school as the curriculum planners. The important areas of language and mathematics in the primary phases are portrayed in a very negative way. The emphasis is on the achievement of competence in these areas. While not disagreeing with the notion of competence, one would like to see reference to understanding, enjoyment and confidence;

the sort of message the video portrays. Intending teachers may well be misled by the video as to the likely working conditions in primary classrooms today affected as they are by a shortage of books and materials, shabby and deteriorating school buildings, and restricted opportunities for in-service education. Add to these a starting salary which compares unfavourably with that of a police constable, and the poor prospects for promotion.

We have, then, on the one hand, an enticing video, produced by the DES, of how exciting and rewarding teaching in the primary school can be, and, on the other hand, statements and policies of the very same department which appear to contradict the philosophy portrayed. What is more, the current attitude to salaries, resources and working conditions seems to contradict the notion of teaching as a responsible and professional task. Does the left hand of the DES know what its right hand is doing?

Daphne Kerslake is a principal lecturer in education at Bristol Polytechnic.

Good news, bad news

COLIN BUTLER

It is good news that Her Majesty's Inspectors and chief education officers are increasing their interest in television (*The TES*, January 18) since this ubiquitous medium has the capacity to exercise enormous influence in ways that are not always immediately obvious. Consequently, it has an important place on any educational curriculum, since one of the functions of education is to make people aware of what is going on, if only to prevent their being unwittingly manipulated.

Readers of Spinoza will know that in the definition introducing Part Two of *Ethics* ("Of the Nature and Origin of the Mind"), he explains that he prefers "conception" to "perception" when speaking of ideas "because the word 'perception' seems to imply that the mind is passive in respect of the object; whereas 'conception' seems to express an activity of the mind".

Television studies starts right there, for it is a characteristic of television both to promote and to legitimize the illusion of perception - to the extent that "just watching television", as if that were all there was to it, is the commonly accepted description of a large and regular part of people's lives; whereas even the most acquiescent viewer is in fact engaged in a constant though mostly unconscious process of selecting, recognizing, endorsing and so forth in order to confer some kind of order on his initial sensory input; since otherwise there would be no order at all in what he sees.

Some of the unstated criteria of this process are themselves transmitted by the apparently neutral image of television, thereby effectively making manner - including omissions - as much a part of the message as its matter. Discussion of news programmes like *Bad News* have given this phenomenon a degree of localized prominence. But it needs emphasizing that any television necessarily implies the convergence of two sets of interpretations that of the maker of the programme and that of the viewer.

From that, a number of consequences follow. One is that, despite all appearances to the contrary, the one thing that is never seen on television is reality as such; a second is that the whole range of television programmes invites study, since their hidden curriculum is just as present in, say, *Hi-de-Hi!* as it is in *News at Ten*. The intellectual skills required to tease it out are exacting enough to forgo the reflex accusation of "not real work". To make this hidden curriculum

apparent is as difficult as it is educationally worthwhile, not only because it means getting pupils to realize what they are watching in terms of the terms proposed by the programme itself - and that is difficult enough - but also because there is in principle one set of terms of understanding that can recommend itself to the ears of all others.

In other words, understanding whatever sort requires some kind of reformulation - in terms, for example, of social attitudes, psychology, political theory, economic theory or whatever, each set of terms having its own validity. But at the same time, something a priori to compel the viewer to choose or to prioritize in a particular way. As with the Lisa Lisa smile, so with television, ways to construe it are legion.

This means two things: that television studies is not, strictly speaking, subject in its own right, but rather a means of attention; and that since it does not have a unique and self-contained system of conceptualization in its own right, it is necessarily interdisciplinary. Consequently, it is approached as a collective enterprise from the outset.

I believe English departments should, as a matter of course, have television studies on their curriculum since they are officially in the business of interpretation and also since it is partly complementary, partly competitive relationships, between what is image concern them directly. At any one department has a number of television studies, the subject (the word remains conveniently misleading) is likely to be discussed correspondingly - a point for further training to address itself to.



Dr Colin Butler is Senior Lecturer in Education at Borden Grammar School, Sittingbourne, Kent.

dozen well-qualified people in the city putting in applications.

It is always been true that we couldn't all be "elites", but the long period of expansion in education gave a neat pyramid career structure, and it has been the conventional wisdom that anyone with the talent and the desire could move upwards. This has not been the case for some time, and the problem continues to get worse. Even if I am lucky, there will be many more people in the position who are not.

The advice we are getting is no longer appropriate. The trouble is that the people who we turn to have all been successful in their own careers and find it very difficult to see things in this different light. The more power and influence they have, the more career success they must have had, and the more firmly they hold these beliefs. I am heartened to read about the

new salary structure, but money is not the only problem. My real concern is responsibility and status. In the management teams that run today's comprehensive, power now rests with those on the higher salary scale, and the rest of us are left with a consultation procedure.

In the future there will be more people on a new main management scale, quite capable of performing traditional management jobs, but in more prosperous times we have been doing so. Such people will become disillusioned, and will be chafed if a proper role is not found for them. We would like to feel that our experience and qualifications are valued with or without "promotion" in the traditional sense.

Tony Sadler teaches in a comprehensive in the North of England.



THOSE WHO HELP THEMSELVES



Jumping for joy: 26 sports teams and one in five pupils playing instruments - all part of the enrichment for which Bohunt can thank the generous support of parents.



The covenancing scheme is proving to be a formidable new way for some maintained schools to raise funds. Donors sign a covenant form promising to pay a stated amount of money annually for either four or seven years to a named charitable trust. The trust receives that money directly, plus 43p in the pound from the Inland Revenue as a tax refund.

Using this method Bohunt School in Liphook, Hampshire has guaranteed itself an income of £44,000 over the next four years.

The school is in the prosperous, commuter territory on the Hampshire-Sussex border. The neighbouring district of Alton boasts Britain's lowest unemployment rate.

It's a purpose-built comprehensive, opened in 1978 to serve Liphook and the surrounding villages and currently has 1100 pupils. Its low sloping-roofed buildings are more suggestive of a large sheltered housing development than the school.

It also acts as the town's community centre. More than 5000 people use it every week and visitors are as likely to encounter a crèche, a Workers' Educational Association class appreciating Mozart or a Help the Aged committee meeting as a four-year history group.

There is an air of cheerful industriousness. Head Dr Alan Leach, can walk into a classroom without the awed silence such visits provoke in many schools. Extra-curricular activities are very strong - more than 20 per cent of pupils play a musical instrument and there are 26 sports teams.

Dr Leach readily admits that this range of activity could not be funded solely from capitation money. The Friends of Bohunt, the PTA, has helped bridge the gap, raising about £4,000 from a range of fund-raising activities.

But there are limits to what even the most enthusiastic PTA can do. "The school's needs were growing faster than the income. We were having to work harder for every penny and didn't believe we could raise much more without a phenomenal effort", says Dr Leach.

He points out that the sudden arrival of The Technical and Vocational Education Initiative with the MSC creating a class of well-funded schools at a time when most were struggling to maintain current provision, created further pressures.

"We want to recruit and retain good teachers in craft, design and technical subjects and in computer studies. But they're naturally likely to say: 'Why should I want to work with limited facilities here, when at a TVEI school I'd have everything I need'."

"I know headmasters who were amazed and bewildered when they compared the money TVEI schools were getting to what they had to

Huw Richards reports on a school that raised £44,000 to enable it to compete with the sort of funding given to TVEI schools.

work with themselves", he says. And FOB were beginning to suffer from the Law of Diminishing Returns: "We were starting to run out of ideas, and sponsored events were becoming less and less popular", explains Mike Ling, chairman last year.

So a *TES* article in May 1983 telling the story of another Hampshire school that had raised large amounts through a covenant scheme was seized on avidly. A visit from a professional fundraiser convinced them it was a good idea, but they were less happy at the prospect of paying the £1,800 plus VAT he would have charged for running an appeal. "We felt paying out so much would be a gamble with parents' hard-earned contributions so we decided to go it alone. An appeal committee was formed and FOB contributed towards its running costs", Mike Ling remembers.

'We want to recruit and retain good staff in craft, technical and computer studies'

Getting the appeal underway was a major operation. A charitable trust had to be organized and recognized by the Charity Commissioners, and a strategy for presenting and marketing the appeal to parents to be devised.

Bohunt has a ready-made fundraising structure in its house system. Bohunt's six houses are linked to local charities and pastoral care is arranged through houses rather than years.

Stress was laid from the start on running the scheme as a partnership between parents and staff. Lynne Standerline, senior tutor in Ockendon House, remembers, "I discussed with my tutor group which parents would be most likely to get actively involved. We wrote to those people and invited them to a meeting where we discussed setting up an action group to run the scheme".

House groups reported back to the appeal committee and preparations were then begun for the centrepiece of the operation - meetings to which all the parents in each house were invited. Setting these up was a major, painstaking operation recalls Paul Barry, the games master who was staff representative on the appeal committee: "Every parent received a personalized letter signed by Dr Leach. For this we had to work out all the family relationships and domestic situations in the school."

His own area of sport is a case in point: "We've been able to buy the school a second, minibus

which means we can extend the Duke of Edinburgh scheme and have more sports fixtures. Sailing in the summer wouldn't have been possible without it - we took four groups of 15". The appeal has done a great deal for the school's relationship with its community: "We have seen a growth in parent awareness of the aims and objectives of the school", says Dr Leach. Lynne Standerline found similar benefits on a more personal pastoral level: "A lot of parents came to meetings when we'd never seen them before, while the meetings provided informal contacts between staff and parents where pupils might be discussed without the formality of parents evenings."

The PTA's gains were considerable as well: "Endless hours of collective staff, pupil and parent energy devoted to fundraising activities are released for other concerns", says Dr Leach. Mike Ling says "It's given us a chance to concentrate more on pastoral issues, while the appeal helped attract some new blood. There are some excellent new people on the committee."

As Mike Ling remembers this explanation of the school's finances was an eye-opener for many parents.

Each parent was given a brochure explaining the need for "curriculum enrichment" - covering technological change, outdoor pursuits, music and sport.

After Dr Leach had answered questions, which were mainly about the sums needed for curriculum development and requests for more details of future plans, the appeal treasurer explained the covenant system.

Each parent was given a covenant form, and a reply card on which to indicate their likely response, before leaving the meeting. All who had attended the meeting, about 75 per cent of the school's parents, were followed up by the house action groups. Those who had not attended received a further letter and a brochure from Dr Leach.

Four-year covenants were signed by 22 per cent of families guaranteeing the school £36,000 - £6,000 over their target. An appeal at the beginning of the next academic year produced a 41 per cent rate of covenanting among first-year parents, and boosted the money raised to £44,000.

Guaranteed income means the school can plan expenditure. Staff morale has received a shot in the arm as Paul Barry points out: "We've just spent £5,500 at a trustees meeting and the staff room is buzzing. People who've got equipment they want feel that something positive has happened. It does wonders for morale and if the teachers are happier it improves the whole atmosphere in the school".

His own area of sport is a case in point: "We've been able to buy the school a second, minibus

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'We have seen a growth in parent awareness of the aims and objectives of the school'

The benefits for Bohunt are unquestionable, but wider worries remain, as Dr Leach admits: "The most serious issue raised is the extension of inequality of provision between schools both nationally and within L.e.s. As a believer that schools should have equal, adequate provision he admits to philosophical discomfort at what he sees as the inevitable creation of another division between "haves" and "have nots".

"But I have to look at my school and say 'we want to do certain things - run orchestras, sailing classes, sport or information technology. I can sit there and say 'sorry, we can't do it, we haven't got the money'. Or alternatively, I can look for ways round the problem. The reality, however much we may dislike it, is that schools are not allocated resources on any calculation of needs, and my duty as headmaster is to prove the best education I can for the children here", he explains.

The prosperity of the Liphook area certainly helped. But commitment and effort were clearly important too. Dr Leach says other schools could "Organize meetings of parents, explain what the school is trying to do, what you need to do it, and how this relates to your resources, and make sure they can do it."

His own area of sport is a case in point: "We've been able to buy the school a second, minibus

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The carpet baggers

TONY SADLER

I have always despised those educational carpetbaggers who fill from town to town as they scramble up the career ladder, never forming an attachment to any particular place. I find it hard to justify a move away from an area in which I am a real part of a community, simply to improve my promotion prospects.

Now falling rolls and the march of time make it ever more likely that I will remain one of those tens of thousands of teachers stuck on the top of Scale 2. At 35 I was about the average age on a recent 'shortlist' for head of a small department, and the competition gets fiercer as the candidates get older.

So, I may well remain where I am, and I would like a role to play. Informal discussions with the senior staff at my present school leave me baffled and amazed. To a man, they refuse to accept the possibility that I will be forced to stay where I am, and try and counsel me for what they consider to be some sort of post-interview depression. "Don't worry," they say, "Keep applying and you're bound to get one sooner or later."

The facts are against them (and against me). In the last three years there have been two similar jobs in this area (an urban area with a high concentration of schools), and there are no more vacancies at present.

The greening of the valleys

Unpublished official figures show a remarkable turn-round in the style of Welsh secondary schools according to David Reynolds and Steven Murgatroyd

The Welsh office is about to publish a set of figures that reveals a remarkable turn-round in the performance of Welsh schools. The statistics show that in 1983 only 17.9 per cent of Welsh teenagers left school without a single qualification. This compares with 25.1 per cent of unqualified Welsh school-leavers in 1980—then more than twice the percentage for English pupils.

These improved results for low-achievers in Wales have not been achieved at the expense of the more able. In 1983, it seems, 27.2 per cent left school with five or more O levels, or their equivalent, the highest figure on record, surpassing the peak of 25.8 per cent in 1971.

Unpublished figures from three years ago for the consistently poor showing of lower-attaining pupils in Wales—the alleged difficulty of the Welsh exam board's exams and severe social deprivation—were refuted, we argued at the time (*The TES*, December 4, 1981), by the results of the Assessment of Performance Unit's tests.

If Welsh pupils were disadvantaged by harsher marking by the board, why were they also bottom of the regions in the APU's tests of scientific ability published in 1981? And if they suffered greater social deprivation, why were they top of

only 15 per cent of boys absent from secondary schools—and even fewer girls—were truants in the sense of being away from school without their parents' knowledge and consent, according to recent surveys carried out in Sheffield as part of a Government-sponsored research programme into problem pupils.

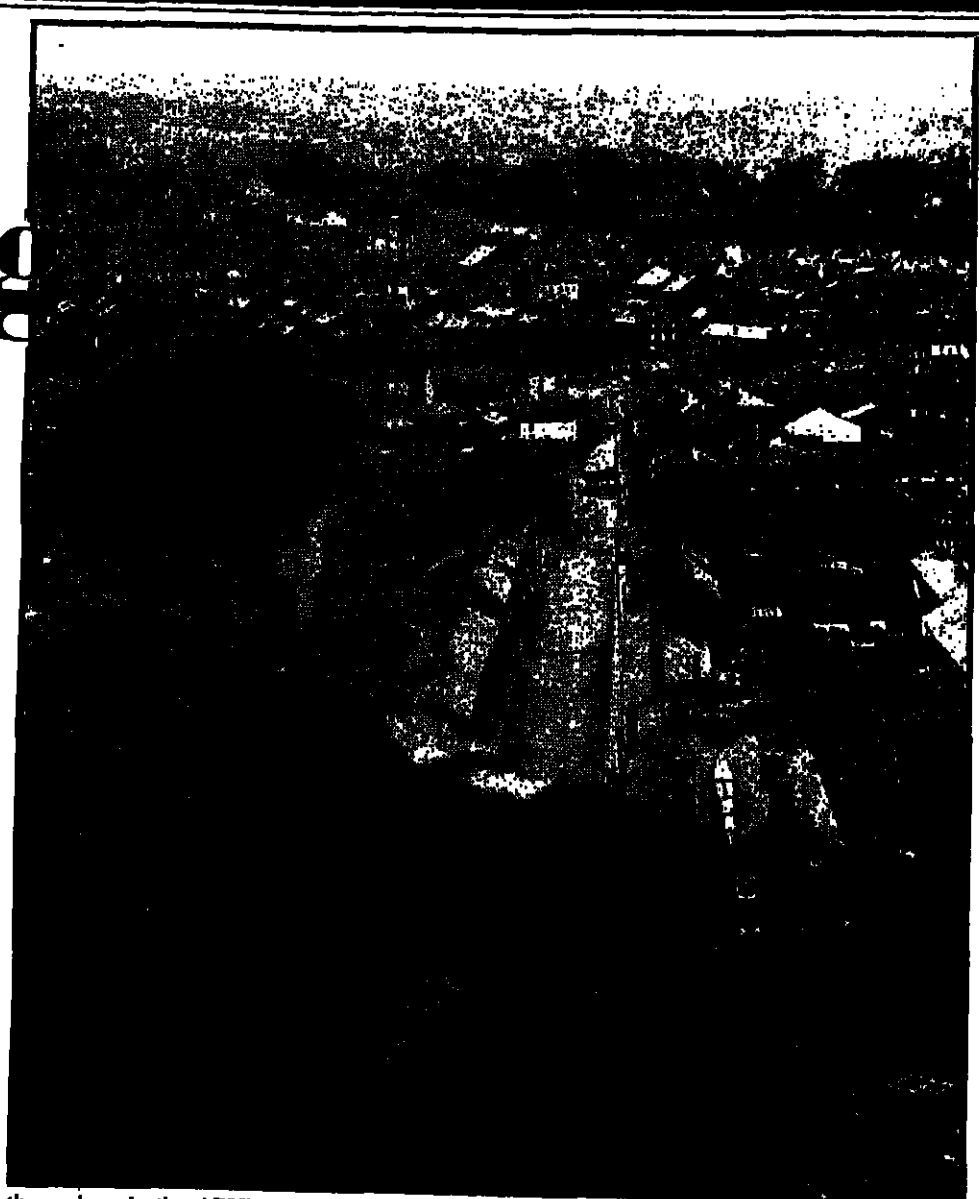
Three city-wide surveys showed absentee rates were stable throughout the primary school years but rose steadily thereafter, with a particularly sharp rise in the last two years of compulsory education.

The pupils themselves distinguished sharply between truancy—"wagging it" in South Yorkshire—and staying at home when they could have been at school. Some absentees, indeed, were quite indignant at the suggestion that they wagged school; they regarded staying at home with their parents in quite a different light.

Persistent absentees—those missing half their schooling or more—generally suffered multiple disadvantages compared with regular attenders. Their families had financial problems, lived in overcrowded, sub-standard housing and suffered poor physical or mental health. At first sight this seems to support the view of many teachers and researchers that the origins of poor school attendance lie in the home.

It is hard to see, however, how the sharp increase in absentee rates throughout the years of compulsory secondary schooling can be attributed to family circumstances unless those family circumstances deteriorate as the children reach adolescence. It is possible that adolescents are more affected by stress in the family than younger children or that parents encourage more adolescents to stay off school to help in the home or to look after younger children.

Asking absentees or their parents why they had missed school was seldom helpful. The question implies a conscious decision not to attend. For



the regions in the APU's tests at age 11?

The fundamental cause of high rates of failure, we argued, must lie in the organization, ethos and effectiveness of Welsh secondary schools.

Three years on, our argument that home background was not the explanation for failure has been strengthened by the findings of the National Children's Bureau figures showing 5.8 per cent of their cohort of Welsh children at age 16 were socially disadvantaged, an identical figure to that for Britain as a whole.

We also argued that different levels of spending on education could not be the explanation. Welsh schools are spending more per pupil than English schools are and have pupil-teacher ratios that are marginally more favourable.

In some respects our arguments have been shown to be wrong, though. We maintained that it was Welsh secondary schools which were ineffective. More recent APU results show that

the Welsh primary schools must also take some of the blame, since the performance of Welsh children at age 11 has been deteriorating.

But what is it that has brought about the dramatic turn-round, confirmed by our own experience of visiting Welsh secondary schools? It seems to us that there have been several changes.

First, there have been changes of personnel. When comprehensive schools were formed in Wales they were usually headed by the former headteachers of high status grammar schools. Grammar school staff also dominated the departmental positions. With premature retirements have come greater opportunities for staff who are less hostile to the comprehensive ideal.

The result of this seems to be a much greater emphasis within Welsh comprehensives upon the education of the low-ability child, upon pastoral care and upon whole school rather than bilateral

school policies. Second, the passage of time has allowed the two very different Welsh traditions of grammar and secondary modern education to be merged. In Wales, grammar schools took up to 35 per cent of the ability range. Few secondary moderns had many examination candidates and even fewer had developed any kind of new or traditional school form.

Third, Welsh schools have at long last begun to tackle school management. Many of the first generation of comprehensive heads believed they could run their new schools as they had the grammar schools—by charisma.

Many retained all authority on academic and curriculum matters, only delegating pastoral care responsibility to their senior management teams. The result of this in many schools was that junior staff were not involved at all in decision taking and morale suffered. The lack of any collective involvement meant few commonly agreed ends and means.

Slowly, this is changing. Heads are working more closely with senior management teams on all school matters. There are more staff meetings. More schools are using simple devices like staff handbooks and staff diaries to encourage collective knowledge of school activities.

Further, there are clear signs that the organization, ethos and curriculum of many Welsh schools is changing rapidly. There seems to have been a move away from the rigid streaming that was practised in many comprehensives towards greater use of banding, though mixed ability has not got off the ground in Wales.

Physical punishment is becoming less common as more and more schools try to develop reward-based systems of pupil control. Much greater efforts are being made to enlist the support of parents through formal channels such as the setting up of parent-teacher associations and through informal visiting of the schools.

A much higher proportion of the pupil ability range is being entered for exams and a much more positive attitude is being taken towards the lower ability children. CSE Mode 3—formerly much under-utilized in Wales—is growing in popularity as are City and Guilds courses and special continuous assessment packages for children in counties like Mid Glamorgan. Pupil profiling, giving all children something to aim for—has been pioneered by the former Schools Council Committee for Wales.

All these changes seem to be generating a distinctive educational system within Wales that is different from that of England and seems to be producing an authentic Welsh way forward out of the doubts and difficulties that have surrounded British secondary education for two decades.

Is it now perhaps time to re-examine the influential encyclopedia entry and argue that, in education, "For England, see Wales"?

David Reynolds is lecturer in education at University College, Cardiff. Steven Murgatroyd is a senior counsellor with the Open University.

Only the tail wags

Schools should offer persistent absentees a good reason to attend says David Galloway

Some of the children we interviewed, regular school attendance was no more a realistic option than a luxury cruise.

Some grew up in circumstances so harrowing that school attendance, both for child and parents, was a very long way down their list of priorities. No one in the family had the time or energy to cope with the additional demands of school attendance. Their priorities were more basic: housing, heating, food, the rent, their own health and the health of their children.

One 12-year-old was too worried to leave her depressed mother alone in the house even though she did not think she could do much to help.

Another, aged nine, explained that her mother was ill, and needed help looking after her six younger brothers and sisters.

A 14-year-old boy explained: "Before my dad went (died) I stopped in with my mum; she got nervous and that; she's still suffering with her nerves." This boy was a virtual non-reader and had few friends at school. Staying at home with his mother was not based on a conscious decision to

avoid school; it was just the most obvious course of action.

Only a few expressed strong hostility towards school, though the majority disliked some aspects. The overwhelming impression, though, was not of any explicit rejection of school and its values. Many children liked individual teachers, and enjoyed some subjects. Yet they seldom saw school as an active source of advice, help or support. Nor did their parents.

For many families the impersonal "they" who made school attendance compulsory were as faceless and nameless as the councillors who set their rents or the officials who sent out the electricity bills. The idea that education could involve a partnership with parents was beyond their experience.

In some schools, though by no means all, it was hard to see how the teachers' side of the partnership extended beyond calling in the education welfare officer. It seldom involved any constructive attempt to establish a constructive

relationship between teachers and parents. This was not based on a conscious decision to

pressure from headteachers as one of the reasons for taking legal action against parents or children. Yet in many cases teachers and parents had never met.

In our research, attendance following legal action generally remained unchanged. Nor does solution lie in referral to educational psychologists or psychiatrists. A very small minority—certainly less than 5 per cent of all persistent absentees in urban areas—will probably benefit from clinical treatment and this too requires active cooperation from teachers.

Teachers can do far more to influence their pupils' attendance than the courts or other outside agencies; an encouraging minority of schools dramatically reduced their absentee rates, whereas in another, more worrying, minority of schools the reverse occurred. These changes generally coincided with radical developments in problems in the schools concerned.

In other words, persistent absenteeism, as reflected not just the catchment area, but also the health of the school as an educational institution. This is borne out by the work of other researchers and teachers in London and South Wales who found school attendance rates to be associated with factors within the school as well as within the catchment area.

Any improvement in overall attendance rates depends on the school capturing the interest and commitment of its community. The fact that some pupils, like many of those we interviewed, have positive incentives not to attend school merely underlines the need for the school to provide stronger, more positive incentives for those pupils and parents who see school as just one more burden.

David Galloway is a lecturer in education at University College, Cardiff. His book, *Schools, Parents and Absentees*, was published by the Open University Press in 1983.

The new inquisition

A school governor finds it is now heretical for promotion candidates to question mixed-ability or multi-ethnic teaching

At an interview last year one governing board was pressed by the head to appoint a black candidate "because the authority desires more senior black staff" and despite the candidate's serious personal disqualifications for the post.

Whether this positive discrimination comes from the authority or from ambitious heads is not clear. It is certainly advocated by some political governors and has already, in the instance I know of, had disastrous results, just as some of us predicted it would. Like mixed ability, these multi-ethnic initiatives have taken on the sanctity of orthodoxy and one questions them at one's professional peril.

This almost medieval refusal to exercise their own capacity for thought and judgement has, I fear, caused many London teachers to deny the importance of thinking as an aim in schooling. All the candidates I have ever interviewed have insisted quite categorically that school is not merely to promote academic development. That "merely" always worries me. It suggests that academic development is very low on the list of priorities with which school is meant to deal. The intellectual advancement of children, which means the prime function of schools, fostering of the ability to learn and to think, is actually denigrated.

If that is so, what is school for? We governors and parents may well ask. These days, apparently, school promotes the social and personal development of its pupils. At least, this is the answer that invariably comes pat at interviews.

It seems to me that what is incidental, even accidental, has been elevated to a position of undue importance. No one would deny that while children are at school, thrown together willy-nilly

with a great many other people of a similar age, a more general development of the individual will inevitably take place. The trouble with the current creed in education is that one effect of the nature of school as an institution is confused with its proper function.

The new creed of social/personal development seems to assume that children attending day schools are permanently cut off from all other influences which foster general development, such as parents, friends and families. But pupils attend comprehensive school for less than seven hours a day. Their actual time in lessons is even less than that, of course. An average daily school timetable consists of seven lessons of 35-45 minutes duration, making a possible maximum of 5 hours 15 minutes actually spent learning or doing. We must not forget that much time within that timetable is given over to games, P.E., dance, drama, art, cookery or needlework—activities pleasurable perhaps in themselves but which do little to develop cognition or the ability to think and learn.

So little time is actually given over to academic work in school that one wonders why it must be so often denigrated by teachers seeking promotion? This is even true of the Hargreaves Report which has done nothing to restore to the pivot of school's function, the fostering of the intellectual skills of its pupils. Without that, teachers will remain the glorified child-minders they have become.

It seems to me that in the last 15 years, the pastoral side of modern secondary schooling has ousted the academic, notwithstanding the uncomfortable fact that classroom teachers receive no training as child psychologists, welfare or prob-

tion officers. Most of them are subject-orientated academics of varying levels of competence and excellence. Parents quietly rejoice in the fact that they are academics, however minor, but, sadly, that is the one thing that modern doctrine requires teachers to apologize for, or to play down.

Indeed, things have gone so far that it is not unusual now to be told by a candidate, or even a headteacher, that academic work is "inappropriate" for working-class pupils, which in the universal mixed-ability organization of London schools must mean for all pupils. This is especially true, I have been told, in view of the unemployment facing the capital's youth. "Education for leisure", fast becoming the new watchword or bandwagon, seems to offer London's teachers the perfect bolt-hole from having to promote the intellectual development of their pupils.

As a working-class child who failed the 11-plus and was sent to a tough inner London comprehensive in the 1950s and from there went on to university in the 1960s, I naturally deplore such belittling of working-class capacities. In those bad old days, it was not the intake that was different, it was the organization of the schools.

My school was streamed into grammar, technical, commercial and early leavers from the fourth year onwards. In those days we had only one deputy head for 1,250 pupils and no heads of year. There was a female teacher in charge of girls' discipline (they made no bones about it then) and one male teacher similarly in charge of the boys. Both were head of a subject as well. There was no proliferation of senior pastoral posts for which teachers were handsomely paid to desert the classroom for much of their timetable.

The school was subject-orientated, not child or teacher-centred. We could study Latin or German as a second foreign language, do technical drawing, shorthand, typing and engineering, as well as all the traditional subjects. The school ran smoothly despite the fact that it had all the inner city problems that are complained about nowadays, including kids who, out of school, took part in gang fights which naturally attracted police attention.

I mention all this to show how comprehensives have changed in the last 20 years. As teachers have arrogated unto themselves the rightful role of parents, social workers *et al*, they have abdicated from their own proper function.

The author is a governor of an ILEA primary and secondary school and for legal reasons has to remain anonymous.

The threat of a coma is not a full stop

Diabetic pupils can do most things with care. Barry Shurlock outlines what teachers should know

The hazards faced by diabetic children at school range from being mistaken for "junkies" to falling unconscious.

Although teachers cannot be expected to acquire specialist medical knowledge, there is a strong feeling among the parents of diabetic children that more should be done to safeguard the needs of pupils with this condition. And a "school pack" has recently been produced by the British Diabetic Association.

It is the idea of a primary school teacher from Chadwell Heath, Mrs Barbara Elster, who has a diabetic child herself, and consists of preprinted cards which are filled in by parents and passed to appropriate members of staff. General advice on the precautions to be taken with young diabetics is given on the cards, for both day-to-day situations and school outings.

Information about the special needs of a diabetic pupil may not reach all teachers, particularly in split-site secondary schools and teachers' awareness of diabetes is generally low. A recent survey carried out in Liverpool showed that only one in four teachers responsible for a young diabetic had "an adequate understanding of diabetes". That conclusion was reached by doctors after marking the answers given to an 18-point questionnaire by 97 teachers.

All but six answered two key questions correctly (that diabetic children should be allowed to go on school outings and should not be left on their own or sent home alone if they are taken ill at school), but fewer than half were well informed on a variety of other basic topics, including the need for young diabetics to take precautions before exercise and the hazards of detention.

The BDA pack is intended to help remedy this. The BDA pack is intended to help remedy this. The BDA pack is intended to help remedy this. The BDA pack is intended to help remedy this.



these packs, which will help their parents to tackle the school. The primary situation is pretty easy—all the parents do is see the head and he or she usually sorts it out. But it's more of a problem in secondary schools, where communication is often diabolical.

"Diabetes can be a major problem if teachers and parents are not prepared to educate each other, but if they both accept their responsibility the child will have a good school life."

The essence of coping with diabetes is to keep a normal level of glucose in the blood by keeping a balance between its production from food and its disappearance under the influence of the hormone, insulin. This balance can be upset by

physical exercise, which burns up glucose, or by sudden excitement or a cold, both of which cause glucose to be generated from body deposits.

Diabetics follow a precise schedule of insulin injections and carefully formulated meals to keep their glucose levels within normal limits. As an emergency, they carry glucose tablets or sugar lumps to increase sugar in the blood quickly in unusual circumstances.

If diabetics depart significantly from a schedule drawn up in consultation with a doctor they may have a "hypo" (short for hypoglycaemia, meaning low blood sugar), in which they "feel funny" and may eventually lose consciousness. That is probably the teacher's worst fear.

Mrs Elster comments: "The teacher has to be aware of the possibility that bad behaviour could be the start of a hypo—or it could just be bad behaviour."

The BDA school pack gives instructions for coping with a hypo, which amount to giving the child a "snack" or three glucose sweets or sugar lumps as quickly as possible. If these measures have no effect, medical advice needs to be sought, at a casualty department or doctor's surgery.

Hypos may be due to alterations in the timing of the meals and snacks prescribed at clinics or if the child forgets to stock up on carbohydrate before physical exercise. The BDA school pack tells PE teachers: "Most diabetic children need to eat a snack or three glucose sweets or have a sugary drink before they take vigorous exercise."

The pack also suggests that spare supplies of glucose sweets be held at the gym or playing field in case of emergency. Hypos sometimes occur because of diabetic children having running kit without pockets to carry spare glucose.

Detaining a diabetic child after school without making arrangements for food may also trigger a hypo.

Some teachers may be concerned about taking a diabetic child on a lengthy school trip or holiday abroad. The BDA school pack includes a useful checklist of medical supplies and suggests that all these materials be held by a teacher. And experienced travellers say that, when flying,

syringes and other necessary equipment should be kept in the hand luggage.

Children who are finding it difficult to cope with diabetes at school may benefit from meeting other diabetics. The BDA organizes a series of summer camps which are attended by medical and nursing staff and provide an opportunity for diabetic children, including many from disadvantaged backgrounds, to learn more about coping with their condition and to see others in a similar situation—as well as having fun. For teenagers the BDA organizes foreign visits, adventure and outward bound holidays and an arts and crafts week. A BDA spokesman said that, although parents usually paid for these events, children were never turned away from lack of funds.

Dr David Baum, an Oxford paediatrician who runs a diabetic clinic emphasizes the challenge faced by the diabetic child and the influence of home life: "It's an appalling burden to know that each morning they must inject or die. If the child comes from a family where they always get up at seven in a relaxed way the chances are that he will have superb control of blood sugar. If he comes from a muddled family his control will be at best uncertain."

A new scheme devised by Dr Baum in consultation with teachers is the Keeping Well with Diabetes Children's Award Scheme. It aims to improve children's knowledge by offering set exams at three levels, with certificates and badges as rewards.

Schemes such as that mean that the diabetic child is generally exceptionally well-informed about the intricacies of diabetes. Indeed, one of the most impressive aspects of modern medical care of the emphasis on the patient helping himself or herself from a very early age. The special knowledge which this brings should be experienced by the teacher and could well prove an asset for the whole class, particularly in maths and sciences.

The British Diabetic Association is at 10 Queen Anne's Gate, London SW1A 2HQ. Tel: 01-233 1531.

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Roy Foster on the BBC's attempts to grapple with the Irish crisis

Gerald Heigh

BOOKS

National markets

The Perspective of the World: Civilization & Capitalism 15th-18th Century. Volume III. By Fernand Braudel. Collins £18.95. 0 00 216133 8.

Braudel's learning is so vast, his mind so keen, and his prose (admirably translated) so clear that interest never flags. His baseline is the capitalist city-economies connected by swaths of activity around lines of communication, eg that joining North Italian cities with the group centred on Bruges and the Hanseatic towns. These were followed by Venice, Antwerp, Genoa, and Amsterdam. The non-appearance of Paris is attributed to France's failure to exploit the Champagne fairs which collapsed during the 14th-century recession.

Amsterdam eventually yielded the palm in the late 17th century it was to one of the new national markets: England-London. The two were inextricably linked - England's population in 1700 was

inferior to that of France, Germany, Italy, and Spain, yet London's 550,000 inhabitants made her by far the largest city in Europe. England raced ahead during the 18th century whereas France, despite her impressive natural resources and convenient geographical shape, did not. France was perhaps too big: her national market did not coalesce until the coming of the railways (or, as one cynic suggests, will not come until she has a telephone system of American efficiency). England, however, developed not only a national market but also financial self-sufficiency. Its keystones were a sound currency (the pound's intrinsic value did not alter from the recoinage of 1500/2 until 1920) and the development of banking in the late 17th century. Private banks were important in providing effective paper money. The Bank of England, founded in 1694, promptly lent its capital to the government, thus establishing the National Debt which at first seemed a millstone but in the long term guaranteed stability.

Braudel then turns to the Industrial Revolution. If population growth and domestic demand were preconditions, the "takeoff" is linked firmly to England's domination of the world economy. This was glimpsed in 1713, pretty clear by 1763, and incontestable after 1783. Paradoxically, during much of the period of "exploitation" Euro-

pean aggression was directed against regions that were more populous and much richer. The English colonies were far wealthier than the mother country. Japan was already rich. China very rich, and India was doing surprisingly well. The drastic falling behind of the underdeveloped nations occurred after the European takeoff in the late 18th and 19th centuries.

Generalization on this grand scale depends on detailed research, and a collection of articles on English history is a useful contribution. An excellent piece on Totnes houses places them in the context of local economic growth and contraction, though it is mainly concerned with building typology. The outstanding essay is that by H. Clarke on the civic leaders of Devon from 1580 to 1800. It contains a warning about corruption from the 1580s, shows how establishment and populist groups in the corporation fought for power, and traces the political activities of a Puritan who, against the king's army when it came to the county had capitulated. It is a "trade" - evidence which runs counter to Professor Lawrence Stone's hypothesis.

Lindsay Boyle

Tired, but triumphant

Lloyd George: From Peace to War 1912-1916. By John Gigg. Methuen £19.95. 0 413 46660 4.

The opening of the third volume of John Gigg's consistently judicious and comprehensive biography of Britain's most imaginative and innately gifted 20th-century politician finds him tired but triumphant, with his great National Insurance Bill securely passed. To term the three years before this outbreak of Armageddon a trough in his career would be to overstate his slightly diminished centrality to the government's fortunes at that time. A somewhat ill-prepared campaign for land reform (his opening speech, some splendidly inflammatory speeches to mass audiences at Bedford) withered away with the advent of war.

When LG addressed the Liberal



faithful at Bedford, he spoke, appropriately enough, at the skating rink; for he was, as two early chapters remind us, an exceedingly thin ice himself in two aspects of his life at this time - in his monetary and in his emotional investments.

The author's concise account of "The Marconi Scandal" (Frances Donaldson's remains the definitive study) ends with a tough verdict on the Chancellor's "indiscretion" - to put it no lower. It was not until the end of

1922, after six years as Premier, the LG was to fall, "never to rise again." Without the government's initial majority at the end of the Marconi debate, he could easily have left forever in 1913 - with immense consequences for the nation. The other sensitive area was his liaison with Frances Stevenson. Rapidly advanced from Meggs's day tutor to amanuensis to *amateur sans titre*, Frances was soon the mistress of his private life.

It was with Europe's people plunging into war that LG's star began to rise again. Successive Minister of Munitions and Secretary of War, he had, by the end of 1916, become the inevitable exponent for the increasingly indecisive and grumpy Asquith. "Squill" as he has been, in Churchill's words, "supine" and "sodden", but he was now no longer "supine". The "Wizard" had spells adapted to the call and every occasion, but he was nowhere more magical than in the use of language. John Gigg's book breathes and unfailingly reads like a contemporary biography.

Martin P

Peppis

The Journal of Emily Peppy. Introduction by Gillian Avery. Prospect Books £7.50. 0 907 32524 6.

They pronounced it "Peppis" rather than "Pepps", but 11-year-old Emily, whose brief diary is here brought to light, was a collateral descendant of Samuel (a great-great-great second cousin or something like that). She was the youngest daughter of the Bishop of Worcester, and was living at Hartlebury Castle during the six months covered in these pages, from July 4, 1844 to January 26, 1845.

Life was fairly uneventful - at least until the Great Schoolroom Fire on Christmas Day. Games were played with older siblings, archery, trap-ball, "Sham-fight" (and she hacks a chunk

out of brother Herbert's hand, messing about with knives at table). Visitors come and go; forward children and over-jocular adults. Books are read: *Pickwick* and (I) the *Life of Lord Eldon* ("but I dare say in a little while it will get too political"). Above all there are the dances - dozens of them, sometimes going through to four o'clock in the morning - although Mama, whom Emily seeks to please before even God, does not approve of waltzing.

The pleasure of this charming book is not so much in these gentle records as in the personality of the diarist herself: writing at a point of balance between guileless child, who confesses to looking up Anatomy and Midwifery in the encyclopaedia when Mama is out, and poised adult ("we ladies"). It is a moment beautifully caught in her plain, prose prose. How many Bishop's daughters could write so well today?

Brian Alderson

Parsonal

Peppers and Pig Killers: The Diary of William Holland, A Somerset Parson 1799-1818. Edited by Jack Ayres. Alan Sutton £5.95. 0 86299 052 1.

This highly entertaining addition to the list of an enterprising Gloucester firm is another challenge to Woodford's position as the parson diarist of late 18th-century England.

Indeed Parson Holland's consistently lively journal, with its expedition to Bristol, Bath and London as well as a meticulous charting of the minutiae of life in deepest Somerset, covers quite as much ground as its rival and has a greater variety of tone. Many of William Holland's entries have a con-

scious and acerbic edge absent from the chronicles of his gentler, milder counterparts. He castigates friends and relatives; servants and parishioners with equal relish; has as a native of Denbighshire, a low opinion of the Somerset folk he finds himself among. ("None but a Somersetshire Booby could make so many blunders in one simple action") and a special detestation of Methodists, Catholics and Democrats. In fact, the very first entry in 1799 starts satirically with "Saw that Democratic hoyden Mrs Coleridge. Libertine should choose her for a wife" (so much for the author of *The Ancient Mariner*).

Absorbed, linked and edited, and admirable both for dipping into and for extended reading, this Diary of the Vicar of Over Stowey is a real find.

M. F.

A place in the galaxy

Margaret Mann on governing bodies

School Governing Bodies. Edited by Kogan, D Johnson, T Packwood and T Whitaker. Heinemann Educational Books £8.50. 0 435 82512 7.

His obituaries will surely credit Sir Keith Joseph with a remarkable talent for bringing issues into the open. Last year's debates about the consultative paper *Parental Influence in Schools* concentrated on his mind wonderfully. What would happen to the complex network of relationships in our education system if parents formed a majority in every governing body, and these governing bodies had the enhanced powers suggested in the Green Paper?

This Green Paper stimulated a short and furious debate and Sir Keith retired to reconsider the issues. A report in last week's TES suggests that he is going to increase the number of parent governors to match the representation from the local authorities. Perhaps he has taken the message from this book.

The 1944 Education Act gave governing bodies a place in the galaxy.

Bodies like CASE, ACE and NAGM have ensured that the case for strong and effective bodies has remained in our collective consciousness. The Audit report on William Tyndale School, the Taylor report and the 1980 Act marked small milestones on the road. But for all that, the authors of *School Governing Bodies* have to say that the governing body is still "characterized by lack of corporate identity" and by "intermittent contact with the day to day life of the school".

The book reminds us that the governing bodies are at the intersection,

and lie under the shadow of two strong institutions, the school and the local education authority. They operate at the point where professional, administrative, and political authority meet. Small wonder then that there are many different expectations of governing bodies, and that they themselves sometimes feel confused.

Local authorities also have diverse and sometimes conflicting expectations of their governing bodies. A governing body may be regarded as a) an executive body, b) a forum for local accountability, c) a part of the local consultative network, or e) a support system for the school. Some I.e.s.s. hope that governing bodies will make positive contributions to shaping I.e.s.s. policy and others that governors will make a contribution to a school's scheme of self evaluation.

Like this particularly hard to cope with, in trying to understand and assess the workings of their school they may have to rely on professional interpreters. This gives the professional members a stronger position. The inequality of membership may add to the difficulties a governing body is bound to experience in reaching a collective viewpoint which embraces the varying knowledge and interests of the different groups of members: the controllers, the providers and the consumers of education.

The way in which governing bodies work does little to overcome these difficulties. In the authors' experience they "do not normally give open and frank consideration to the qualities and capacity desirable in a chairman", though their choice "can make a considerable difference to the pos-

service, though without that book's claustrophobic intensity and intricate poetry. A short postscript set in the present day will challenge many readers' assumptions about what they have just read.

Jacqueline Wilson's *The Other Side* is superficially just another adolescent problem book, piling agony after agony on its fat, unhappy protagonist. But it too surmounts a divided premise and offers access to genuine and unsterilized emotion. Jacqueline Wilson does not try to make Alison likeable; only to make her real. That she can allow Alison to act with spiteful selfishness yet never lose her reader's sympathy shows a subtle and firm control over the narrative.

When Alison's sourly middle-aged mother has a nervous breakdown, Alison and her young brother have to go and live with her divorced father and his new, youthful actress wife and precocious stepdaughter. Alison is suffering the double grief of her loved grandmother's recent death and her mother's rejection; she is determined to hate everything about her new life, and makes herself a vindictive nuisance in her father's household. Her only consolation is her secret conviction that she can leave her body and fly, surveying the town, observing friends and enemies, and in one poignant episode, visiting her dead grandmother, miraculously alive again.

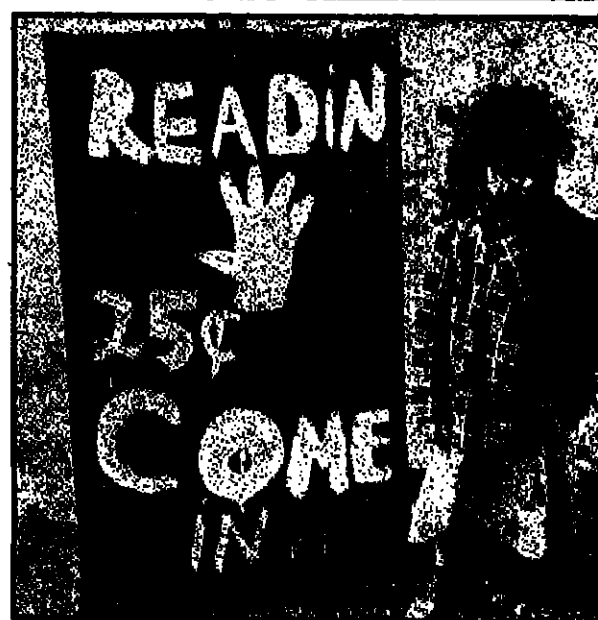
Lillington has taken a clichéd situation - the newcomers to a remote village who are unaccepted by the locals - and made of it a fresh and moving tale. In its weaving of the supernatural into the everyday, and in its portrayal of the confusions of adolescent love at the mercy of class prejudice, *Selkie* has more of the flavour of Garner's *Owl* again.

Commerce between the living and the dead is of course an old staple of narrative. The market for ghost and horror stories is seemingly inexhaustible. Both Alison Prince in *The Ghost Within* and Adele Geras in *Letters of Fire* and other unselected stories provide workmanlike, readable additions to the genre. The trouble is, the predica-

Hippolytus, the text which is printed in Seaford's brand-new Oxford commentary on *Cyclops*, and as one would expect of the Orator of the University of Cambridge, an introduction in beautiful Latin. No doubt because it was type-set in Cambridge, and not Hong Kong, it is also prettier (tunat sigmas, adscriptis lotas and all), but it is very regrettably glued and not sewn, so that the pages tend to fall out.

The publication of *Lucretius: De*

BOOKS



Outside school in a US mining town, 1938 - an illustration from Public Schools in Hard Times: The Great Depression and Recent Years. By David Tyack, Robert Lowe and Elisabeth Hansot (Harvard University Press £16.00).

tions of the governing body" in the local pattern of "checks and balances". Meetings are infrequent, so the governors have little chance to develop a corporate identity. The members do not control their agenda, which may range widely over procedural matters, educational policy, school objectives, major management issues like falling rolls and the availability of staff, to assorted day to day matters. Meeting perhaps once a term, the governors may have little recollection of last term's business when next they meet.

When governors agree to a resolution they usually address it to the I.e.s.s. Not one governing body in this survey framed a resolution which required consideration by the teachers. That says something about how the governing body sees its relations with the school.

School Governing Bodies is based on research funded by the Department of Education and Science. The work of the governing bodies in each of four very different I.e.s.s. was studied in depth. Though the sample is small, the authenticity of the book's analysis and findings is a striking tribute to the fieldwork.

ble scenes enacted in both these books are now too familiar to have the necessary estranging effect to be truly unsettling. The best ghost stories can make an incisive revision of our conception of what is "natural"; these set out merely to frighten. Their success depends on the reader's willing collusion with the author in a game of patterns and expectations. The shocks on offer are safe, and never involuntary.

The literary ghost story - despite extensions of its scope by writers such as Philip Pearce and John Gordon - is effectively played out. The most noteworthy writer of ghost stories today, George Mackay Brown, works against the M.R. James grain, looking instead for a model to the ambiguous moral explorations of the traditional tale. Susan Price in *Chans at Large* retells 12 traditional stories in a rather bland and padded prose that lacks resonance.

Even so, the insinuating quality of these ambivalent stories - as often farcical as they are chilling - makes impossible the sort of cosy reading that *The Ghost Within* and *Letters of Fire* invite. They ask fundamental questions - what would happen if no one died? What would be the rewards of personal immortality? - and answer them with images open to varying interpretations. *Ghosts at Large* is not a very good book, and more forceful versions of its most striking stories - "Death and the Soldier" and "Where Neither Age nor Death Is" - are readily available elsewhere; but it is a refreshing reminder that there are other possibilities for the narrator drawn to the eerie and macabre than simply to ring the changes on the tired old literary conventions.

Neil Philip

Rerum Natura V, edited by C.N.D. Costa (Oxford £7.50) should encourage examining bodies to include this very interesting book, with its account of man's evolution towards civilization, in their syllabuses. The text printed is that of Bailey, which is now a little out-of-date, and it is no an especially attractive book, but at least it is not impossible expensive.

Keith McCulloch

Systems

Understanding Student Learning. By Noel Entwistle and Paul Ramsden. Croom Helm £14.95. 0 7099 0921 7. Live & Learn: An Introduction to the Psychology of Growth and Change in Everyday Life. By Guy Claxton. Harper & Row £4.95. 0 06 318277 7.

These important books are highly topical. In concentrating on learning, they explore the fundamental problem at the heart of current controversy about ensuring professional standards through appraisal systems - finding a reliable relationship between what a teacher does and what a student learns, and the means of expressing accurate comparisons between different classrooms, different teachers and different pupils/students.

Understanding Student Learning is concerned with undergraduates. Entwistle and Ramsden have produced a small version of a major research report with evidence at every turn. They demonstrate that students learn most when they feel that their teachers are interested in them as people, when assessment procedures are seen to support their learning and when they have some choice. Only after that is there much point in talking about the content of courses.

Live & learn is a general introduction to the psychology of growth and change. Guy Claxton relates his fully documented material to the theme that life is continual learning, so that the key psychological issues are what facilitates learning and what inhibits it. His chapter on teaching should be required reading for teachers: it poses the questions which lie behind systems of appraisal, using an entirely different approach route from Entwistle and Ramsden.

Norman Evans

Science in Primary Schools

A Discussion Paper from HMI Science Committee which offers some comments on the variety of ways in which children of primary school age can be taught to think scientifically, and some suggestions for the consideration of local education authorities and heads. ISBN 0 11 270471 9 30 pages. £1.60

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School Libraries

The Foundations of the Curriculum School Libraries are both underused and underfunded; this Report from the Library and Information Services Council recommends a whole school curriculum policy on information skills; libraries that can provide space, books, an ever-increasing range of new media and trained staff; and a hospitable policy framework at national, local and school level. ISBN 0 11 630713 7 40 pages. £4.50

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NEW FROM HMSO



Perpetual outsider

Rosamond Lehmann: an appreciation. By Gillian Tindall. Chatto & Windus £10.95. 0701 7206 6. £4.95.

Rosamond Lehmann is 84 this month and in honour of a distinguished writer, whose works were long out of print, Gillian Tindall offers not a biography, but a biographical appreciation of the writer and her work.

She argues that "the most important thing about a writer is that he or she writes - that he or she creates an extraneous world for the imaginations of other people to inhabit" - a sentence from which it may be seen that the writing is not elegant, and the thought behind it, which is considerable, is not particularly well expressed.

Rosamond Lehmann's first novel, *Dusty Answer*, was published in 1927. It was a best seller, and a *success de scandale*, was published to her surprise. In the 1930s she wrote four novels (*A Note in Music*, *Invitation to the Waltz*, *The Weather in the Streets*, *The Ballad and the Source*) and some short stories. The novel which she considered her greatest, appeared in 1953.

The sudden death of her beloved daughter Sally in 1958 was followed only by the autobiography, *The Swan in the Evening* (1967) and *A San Grape Tree* (1976) a novel which had none of the success of the earlier books. In 1981 Virago Press, with enthusiasm and courage, reprinted most of the novels, and they are now all in print, beginning a renaissance for the reputation and influence of the author.

Gillian Tindall's view is that the first five novels represent a working through of a theme - the cycle of experience of the "Lehmann woman" beginning with charming and insecure young girls, like Olivia in *Invitation to the Waltz*, and ending with the far more complex emotional catastrophes of *The Echoing Grove*. To her, it appears that the body of work was complete before the emotional shock which alienated the novelist for almost 30 years.

The book is interesting, but irritat-

ing. Toothgrinding moments occur, as when the Lehmann family is described as "culturally distinguished", but there are also moments of great insight and perception. She is good on the male characters - none of them particularly appealing, but all seen through the eyes of a woman, blind with love. The novels, though set in the days when girls and women had no real careers open to them apart from marriage and could spend their time dreaming and thinking of love and longing, still strike the woman reader as totally accurate descriptions of female sensibility. Explorations into water imagery, the role of the mother, the number of dead birds in the books, are interesting, but hardly essential reading.

While declaring that she does not wish to parallel the life of the author with events in the novels, it is impossible not to do so. Sometimes this gets a little far-fetched. Rosamond Lehmann's life has not always been happy: both her marriages broke up, and an association with C Day Lewis, which lasted for nine years, ended sadly. The image of the faithless lover, who betrays the woman he loves, is a mystery to the heroine, feeling, as she does, that she is a perpetual outsider, denied the key to a successful life in the world, like the other, more confident people she sees around her.

Gillian Tindall gives only a few pages to *The Swan in the Evening*, which put forward some of the views which have preoccupied Rosamond Lehmann since the death of Sally - the spiritual quest for a bond with a much-loved person - and she has found a strong belief in life after death (described here as "an organized and heartfelt belief-system"). Gillian Tindall does not share this belief, on which she has nothing to say, leaving an impression that Rosamond Lehmann's life has split into two. Others might feel that the progression and growth in the novels and the search for the "belief system" were all one in the story of a soul.

Philippa Toomey

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ARTS

Invisible Kids.
Unicorn Theatre, until February 17.

Kids are invisible, believes the Canadian children's theatre director Dennis Foon. Or they might as well be. As adults we are too ready, he says, to confuse child-like with childish, and apparently totally unaware that the problems which confront children today are exactly the same as those which worry us.

These somewhat radical and very literally child-centred views are at the heart of both *New Kid* and *Invisible Kids*, two short plays which he has both written and directed for the Unicorn Theatre, London. The first, based on his earlier, highly successful play, *New Canadian Kid* (originally produced by Foon's own, Vancouver-based Green Thumb company) looks at the problem of immigration, but through the eyes of the immigrant, Nick, a young "Homelander" who has come to this country with his family, tells us exactly what it feels like to be exposed to an alien and frequently hostile culture. Shows us too, for in a neat reversal of the expected norm, Nick and his family are the only characters to speak English. All the others, his school-friends and persecutors, speak Gibberish, a nonsense language just close enough to English for us to follow what is going on: certainly the "moths homework" on the blackboard needed to translation. Unhappily, Nick does not fare too well, and is branded a "skag".

Researched by Foon in various London schools, the play paints a none-too-complementary picture of life on the playground. If it is any consolation, Foon believes that, coming to England, Nick would fare rather better than a comparable immigrant in Vancouver.

Racism, albeit of a more institutional kind, is also the theme of the second play, *Invisible Kids*, which through its use of disco music, humour, slang and specific reference can also be seen as a



'Invisible Kids'

Sgak and skag

by Hugh David

concise summary of Foon's style. The storyline is unpromising: George, an immigrant, cannot go on the school trip to Calais because she has not received British naturalization. Outraged, several of her classmates boycott the trip in sympathy, organize a petition to Mrs Thatcher and collect more than 200 signatures. With an eye to the real world, a copy is also despatched to John Craven's Newsround. Yet out of this (apparently

true-life) tale Foon has fashioned a funny, moving play. The issues are serious but enlivened by knowing nods in the direction of BMX crazes and the current *Ghostbusters* craze. If he wrote for and about adults Foon's work would be playing at the Royal Court or all other things being equal - the Cottesloe. As it is, these two plays for children are some of the best work to have been staged at the Unicorn for quite a while.

Chase the Dragon.
Snap People's Theatre Trust Tour

Welcoming *Chase the Dragon*, a play for young people which graphically explores the dangers of heroin addiction, Mr John Woods, East Hertfordshire Divisional Education Officer nevertheless felt bound to point out that perhaps there were areas of the country in which it would have been

more relevant than rural Hertfordshire. "We haven't had any instances of drug offences reported in schools in East Hertfordshire, although we have been made aware of instances of glue-sniffing out of school", he told the local paper.

Well, he would, wouldn't he, cynics might feel; although to judge by the naive and very genuine questions by a fifth-form audience after a performance at the Alec Hunter School, Braintree, he is very probably right. Even so, the play (which is touring schools and youth clubs in Hertfordshire and Essex) still serves a useful purpose.

Set squarely amid the squabbles of a middle-class family, it charts the decline of a rather likeable lad called Mervyn from his early experiments with "skag" to the depths of main-line addiction. There are two parallel tragedies. Mervyn himself does not realize what he is doing until it is far too late. Even when he has started stealing to pay for his heroin he still believes that he is "not addicted - though I might feel a bit rough if I don't have any". Sadder still is the fact that his family, variously preoccupied with homework, overtime and the need to buy a microwave oven, never really notice what is going on.

Although the script is rather too neatly schematic (and in one scene woefully inadequate) and the production - quite properly - avoids any explicit use of needles or silver foil, *Chase the Dragon* is still a hard-hitting piece. To a large extent this is due to an extraordinarily detailed and well-observed performance by Andrew Ashby as the young addict. Hunched and shivering, he is a pitiful and fully-rounded character, and disconcertingly remains so in the question-and-answer session which follows the play.

Further details from Snap People's Theatre Trust, telephone 540495, Stanford (0279) 303066 or 540495.

From British Airways - "The World's Most Poetic Airline" - comes sponsorship for a new Commonwealth Poetry Prize under the aegis of the Commonwealth Institute. £5,000, £2,000 and £1,000 are to be disbursed for a competition open to all published poets currently citizens of Commonwealth countries. The novel and the judges' problems - aspects in the huge number of languages eligible for this purpose the world has been divided into five "areas", each with its own jury. Full details from 01-603 4535.

The Mobil winner(s) will be published by Faber, "circumstances permitting". Faber are also one of the supporting organizations for the Observer and Ronald Duncan Foundation International Poetry Competition now being held on behalf of the Arnold Foundation. Prizes of £5,000 (five) and £100 (ten) are to be won; closing date May 31, 1985; details from 070-681 6582.

From British Airways - "The World's Most Poetic Airline" - comes sponsorship for a new Commonwealth Poetry Prize under the aegis of the Commonwealth Institute. £5,000, £2,000 and £1,000 are to be disbursed for a competition open to all published poets currently citizens of Commonwealth countries. The novel and the judges' problems - aspects in the huge number of languages eligible for this purpose the world has been divided into five "areas", each with its own jury. Full details from 01-603 4535.

the Torsador song WNO's Escamille, Henry Newman.

Earlier sessions have covered Design and Stage Management, Singers and Voices, Technical Production, and Props, Wigs and Wardrobe. The last session, timed to precede a visit to the WNO *Carmen* at the Hippodrome in March, will draw together material from the "lessons" and the children's own follow-up work with their own workshop presentation in school.

Sue Harries, WNO's education officer who has organized the series, is determined that opera should be more familiar and accessible to young people. "Too much mystery and illusion simply creates alienation" she says. "My intention is to make their visit to the theatre a thrilling experience, not a puzzling, bewildering one."

Ann FitzGerald

Compete!

The initial response to the playwriting competition announced in October by Mobil and the Royal Exchange company in Manchester has taken its organizers by surprise. Nearly 4,000 requests for the rules have come in from 26 countries including Bolivia, Fiji and Finland as well as the English-speaking sub-continent. (The first script came in two weeks after the off-handwritten, and from a child of 10. This, incidentally, is not a competition for children.)

David Fraser, of the Royal Exchange, reports that the Mobil money has attracted a further business sponsorship award of £20,000 from the government; this, he says, will be spent on promoting the competition "to get to the untapped market - people who may never have put pen to paper

voices are thrilling indeed, dominating the whole space and commanding attention, the words for once fairly easy to follow, as members of the company introduce the people in the story and sing excerpts from the score which most clearly define their characters.

Session Four is on plot and character and producer Aidan Lang has a wealth of audio-visual materials, and four live opera singers, to demonstrate the way Bizet's opera grew out of the original Mérimée story; how the music expands, and embellishes certain areas of the plot, traces a thread of "destiny" through the story and illustrates personality and feelings. Videoed excerpts from Peter Brook's *Carmen* and the musical *Carmen Jones* showed the process of interpretation and adaptation constantly recurring and the children polished up their own singing of

Thread of destiny

WNO Opera Workshops
Hippodrome Theatre, Birmingham.

The sheer power of the singers' voices is one discovery from Welsh National Opera's current workshops for Birmingham schools which has most startled and impressed the 200 11-13-year-olds who have been arriving every Monday for the last month at Birmingham Hippodrome; for the next "episode" in the making of an opera - specifically *Carmen*.

If the theatre's dance studio those

Art lines

Investigating Art. By May Kelgibey Bell & Hyman £5.95, 0 7135 24464. Draw. By Jeffrey Camp. Dorling Kindersley £7.50, 86318 039 6.

To work through the progression of experiments contained in May Kelgibey's book would expand any young person's scope and visual awareness. However, experienced teachers may

groan when they see some of the hackneyed suggestions, which include the old faithful "take a line for a walk". In short, this book would be appreciated most by an unjaundiced youthful beginner for whom it would provide a fund of exciting experiments.

Another useful book, *Draw*, now in paperback with a congratulatory foreword by David Hockney, provides a work sequence based on the work of students who are either dissatisfied with their art tuition or by those who are eager to experiment in their own

time. Working through the various graphic explorations would strengthen the vocabulary an artist needs.

Betty Tadmán

Animal Forms is the title of a "design resource book" collected and arranged by Nigel Billington and John Jeffery (Longman £5.95, 0 582 21141 7). It contains a series of 100 illustrations, which are drawings of birds, fish, insects and other animals. The book is also available on tape.

ARTS

Rich kids get dumber

Robin Buss on the history of television

Television.
ITV, Tuesdays from February 12, 8.00-10.00pm.
Television: a History. By Francis Wheen.
Century Publishing £12.95. 0 7126 0929 6.
Made for Television: Euston Films Limited. By Manuel Alvarado and John Stewart.
BFI £5.95. 0 423 01310 6.
MTM "Quality Television". Edited by Jane Feuer, Paul Kerr and Tse Vah-ming.
BFI £18.00 and £8.95.

Television is quite keen on history, except its own. Apart from documentary or dramatized excursions into the past, it does a fairly good job on cultural history, especially cinema, and TV Times and Radio Times show no compunction about putting a date on those "Vintage" movies of the Fifties and Sixties (which often turn out to be ones of my vintage saw when they were first released). But a re-run of *Callan* has you peering at the credits to read the Roman numerals (*emceel-ec-ec*... and so on) before you can discover the original date of transmission. Much early television was recorded, run and rubbished by producers who had a disarming low opinion of the value of their work.

Yet, as the current Granada history of the medium points out, television is a cultural and communications phenomenon with tremendous implications for the social and political history of the modern world. A Chinese Communist, asked about the significance of the French Revolution, is supposed to have answered: "It's too early to say"; and perhaps a comparable sense of awe has so far inhibited the makers of television from trying to assess its power. There are some 2,500 billion viewers in 162 countries, and the output of new television sets is more or less equivalent to the global telephone. And power is what it is all about: the selling power of advertisers and politicians, the power to influence minds, to alter opinions, to "inform" or to "educate"; or simply the power to glue 83 million Americans to a single episode of *Dallas* and to ensure that the technology that accomplished the moon landings was admired, as long ago as 1969, by 723 million viewers around the world.

Indeed, "Vision of Power" was the title of the first episode in the Granada series and now it is all about the theme of all 13 episodes as well as preoccupying Francis Wheen in the book which accompanies them and the authors of the two studies of television production companies also reviewed here. Large numbers of people, whether marching in support of a cause, voting, revolting or merely slumped in front of the idiot lantern, mean power. And their liking for

Crossroads or *Dallas*, which may seem funny to some, is no joke, especially to the manufacturer of vermouth or the politician fine-tuning his or her image before an election campaign. In literature villains are identified by what they do, on television by how they look, and no would-be president can afford to leer like J R Ewing while promising honest government and an end to corruption. The story of how US presidents, from Eisenhower to Reagan, have learned to blur issues and sharpen images has already been told and Television examines the various ways in which their experience has been modified to apply to different political regimes.

Addicts tend towards a norm: "poor kids get smarter, rich kids get dumber", said an American professor, summing up television's influence on the young - a much-debated topic. No evidence was given in support. Perhaps the medium is too novel and too pervasive for us to discern precisely where its effects begin and end. Did it shorten the Vietnam War or advance the Civil Rights movement? What part has it played in Ulster, the Middle East, East Europe? Will Coca-Cola bring a cultural revolution to China? All you can say for sure is that colour television made Steve Davis a millionaire. Otherwise, the evidence offered by the series and the book tends to be largely anecdotal and, in Wheen's monochrome style, the accumulation of anecdotes makes dull reading, despite the illustrations, which are immune, yet the actuality of what was being done in Vietnam, brought home night after night on the screen, is said to have hardened opposition to the war. There is also a theory that a concentrated dose of rapes, murders, muggings and other forms of grievous bodily harm breeds feelings of insecurity and makes us more repressive and likely to favour the counter-violence of the state or the vigilante or the politician who promises law and order.

It all seems as unprovable as the assertion that Shakespeare, if he was alive today, would have been writing for television. Reading some of the contributions to the two BFI studies of Euston Films and MTM, you'd think he was. Both books are very good on the history of the companies and the way in which, on both sides of the Atlantic, the structure of an episode in a series like *Minder* or *Hill Street Blues* must be fitted to conform with the demands of transmission times and commercial breaks, as well as audience expectations or supposed audience expectations. Their analysis of this, sometimes through such documentary evidence as the original format for *The Sweeney*, their emphasis on the teamwork involved and their general assertion that the output of these two companies has been consistently better than average, are unexceptionable. But better than average, is, frankly, not that good. To speak of *Lou Grant*'s



Joan Miller, the so-called Switchboard Girl who introduced the BBC's "Picture Page" magazine in the 1930s.

they run that piece of footage, the less real it seems. More and more, as you try to grasp it, it recedes. Curiosity replaces horror, then, at last, indifference. There are theories about repeated exposure to such electronic images and, needless to say, they cancel each other out. Maybe we become immune, yet the actuality of what was being done in Vietnam, brought home night after night on the screen, is said to have hardened opposition to the war. There is also a theory that a concentrated dose of rapes, murders, muggings and other forms of grievous bodily harm breeds feelings of insecurity and makes us more repressive and likely to favour the counter-violence of the state or the vigilante or the politician who promises law and order.

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"great accomplishments on a creative level", to describe individual episodes as "spellbinding", "wonderful", "delightfully orchestrated", is to aspire to the critical standards of a pop record promoter plugging a new album; and Christopher Wickham's cautious remark that "it would be foolish - and quite wrong - to suggest that every one of *Lou Grant*'s 113 episodes is some kind of masterpiece", implies that most (or at least some) of them were. Compared to what? Given no context, the word is a meaningless burp.

In the chapters on *Lou Grant* and *Hill Street Blues*, I could have done with less hype and more considered analysis of what made the series different and, especially, why their treatment of certain themes can be seen as so daring in the context of American television entertainment. Both Euston Films and MTM have, in slightly different ways, been constricted by the demands of the ratings and other commercial or financial pressures. Each episode of *The Sweeney* had to involve three major speaking parts only, be shot within 10 days, on not more than 10 locations, all within an hour's driving time from Hammer-smith. This reversion, for budgetary rather than aesthetic reasons, to the three unities of time, place and action suggests that Racine, not Shakespeare, might have found his niche writing for the box. Probably not. Poetry is indeed born of constraints, but they are not the constraints imposed by a mass of audience, nervous executives and 15-minute stanzas punctuated by toothpaste commercials. Power, not poetry, is what shapes television.

Among this week's contributors:

Roy Foster lectures at Birkbeck College University of London

Shella MacLeod's latest novel, *Artemis*, is published by Quartet.

Margaret Mann is head of Highbury Fields School, North London

'Lux' soap

Just before BBC television introduces us to the *East Enders*, Radio Luxembourg has brought us *The Skinners*. (Yes, in case you didn't know, "Lux" is still there on 208 metres.) This new soap opera is broadcast in five minute episodes on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7.20pm, and is about a moderately everyday Cockney family. Dad has just been made redundant; mother is studying bookkeeping at night class; Frank, the elder son, is out of work; and Mike, his younger brother has signed up on a YTS course at the local football club. Less predictably, daughter Sharon is hoping to take a degree in civil engineering.

The plot moves fast. Already we have heard about Skill Centres, the Job Release scheme and what Jobcentres can do for the disabled. Frank has decided to set up his own business, a lunchtime fast food outlet on an industrial estate. So far, the ever helpful Jobcentre has told him about the Enterprise Allowance Scheme and the Small Firms Service, while his bank has set him to work predicting his likely income and outgoings.

With the scenario, it is no surprise to learn that the serial is sponsored by the Manpower Services Commission. There have of course been comparable ventures. BBC Radio Scotland tried a health educational serial and one of the original aims of *The Archers* was to educate farmers. Whether *The Skinners* develops into something more convincing and less didactic remains to be seen. At the moment, its scripts have all the subtlety of public information films and the production is, shall we say, unambitious. Even so it is oddly addictive and even if it is propaganda, it might just broaden a few horizons and spread a little hope.

Crass kind

"Class Encounters of the Secondary Kind" was the subtitle of a recent edition of *Advocacy*, an occasional series broadcast in the BBC Community Programme Unit's *Open Space* slot. In this studio discussion, barrister Michael Mansfield led witnesses on behalf of those who feel that education should serve people and not merely service industry. He also cross-questioned those who feel that TVEI will simultaneously motivate the fifth form and save the economy.

A television polemic, it may not have captured the casual channel hopping viewer, but it did demonstrate the potential dangers facing schools that accept the MSC shilling. Speaker after speaker argued that education should be about more than jobs and that the managers of industry and the government (in the form of the MSC) are taking control of education away from parents, teachers and the i.e.s.s. A Tory MP (Michael Stern) admitted TVEI was introduced without proper consultation and stressed that there was no way of creating jobs other than by developing skills. Another speaker, Professor Colfield of Durham said, perhaps the programme should have been called "Crass Encounters of a Rather Elementary Kind".

David Self

MARGARET WOLFIT
IN
THE MILL ON THE FLOSS
by George Eliot
Fortune Theatre
Covent Garden
Box Office
01-896 2235

lingo
Yorkies
"Maybe it's because I'm a Londoner... Yes, but if I'm not? Surprisingly few British cities have recognized names for their inhabitants. You can be a Mancunian, Liverpoolian, Glaswegian, Aberdonian, and Bristolian readily enough, and perhaps even a Bathonian, but what if you come from Birmingham? A Brummie? Bit slangy, and possibly even disparaging. And a Yorkie is similar (and now commercially charged). At Oxford and Cambridge you can be an Oxonian or a Cantabrigian, but these smack more of gown than town. A Canterbury resident can hardly be a Cantuarian, since this is an episcopal appellation.
A number of public schools extend the range, somewhat, especially for

their past pupils, so that you can have Old Etonians, Harrovians, Sleafordians, Marlburians, Dovorians (sic), Cantuarians (so that's the answer), Uppinghamians and Sennocksians (Sevenoaks School). Winchester College produces Wykehamists, however, so hardly any help for the city's ordinary residents. Some Oxbridge colleges generate similar names, so that Oxford's Exeter College, for example, nurtures Exonians. But can the natives of Devon's administrative capital also claim the name? The trouble is that these school names are their essentially scholastic associations, not quite right for the ordinary resident.
They order these things much better in France, where even quite small towns have standard names for the natives. So you have not only your *Parisians*, but your *Nicols*, *Havrais*, *Troisleviens* and *Dunkerquois*. In Germany, too, you simply add -er to the name of the town: Konstanzer, Paderborner, Kemptener, Regensburger, etc. (Just as well he didn't go to Hamburg or Frankfurt.)
Adrian Room

Next week
Fiction: Edward Bilshen on Nigel Williams; Shena Mackay on Roy K. Heath. Children's theatre and drama

COLBY MUSIC Co
Publishers of School Operettas, Musical Plays and Songs for Class and Assembly
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RESOURCES

"Cheap smut". "casual linking of violence with sex". These were the comments that the daily press homed in on in their reports of the DES paper on *Popular TV and Schoolchildren* 18 months ago. Like many critics of the report, they jumped on the more sensational elements and did not take it on its own terms as an opportunity to raise some important issues for debate between broadcasters and educationists. A year and a half later, meetings have been held across England as the first step towards implementing the report's recommendation that "all teachers should be involved in examining and discussing television programmes with young people". This autumn teachers all over the country will be putting into practice ideas developed at these meetings.

Over the past four weeks I, Gillian Macdonald, have been holding regional meetings in 10 areas of England, from the North West to the South East. He describes their purpose as "to respond to teachers' expression of needs and to assemble information throughout the country about the state of media education". This will then be compiled in a report, he hopes by the Centre for Mass Communication Studies in Birmingham, and presented to the DES.

Invitations went out from Elizabeth House in October of last year to all 105 English I.e.s.s., asking them to attend meetings in all the regions. One hundred and four accepted. Other invitations went to broadcasters and film and TV officers in the regional arts associations. The result was a series of 10 meetings attended by groups of anything from 20 to 70 I.e.s.s. advisers, teacher trainers, teachers from primary and secondary schools, and broadcasting representatives.

The responses of those who attended ranged from scepticism to enthusiasm. There were those who felt they had been coerced into coming by the DES and those - generally media studies teachers - who welcomed it as an opportunity to improve the status of their subject with the help of HMI. In either case the polarized attitudes to media education emerged clearly. As one adviser in Manchester pointed out, "it was a political hot potato - left wing, trendy". But in between came a substantial core of teachers, many of them primary, who had clearly come for guidance in an area they felt to be urgent.

The variety of people and range of experience led to a good deal of initial confusion about the purpose. Was it media education or media studies - and what was the difference anyway? Was it not supposed to be about popular television as the report had said, and, if so, why were people talking about newspapers? James Learmonth stressed that each regional group had to work out its own priorities. They could be as wide or as narrow as they liked, adopting different approaches in different regions. So one area might concentrate on discussing with parents how they might watch television with their children; another might try to arrange a television secondment to the local television company. But above all he reiterated that what they wanted to develop was a discrimination in children which took account of their appreciation and enjoyment of television. "The feeling in the DES is that we have to start from the bottom up, so we would not be against media studies but would seek to take a broader view."



Media network

Gillian Macdonald on moves to involve all teachers in media education

This broader view was then read as media education across the curriculum, from five to 18 and from the art class to the history class. It was not presented as a subject in itself, which would need its space on the curriculum, but as something which could be articulated in any class and run alongside specialist courses in media studies.

The breadth of view was essential if anything constructive was to be hammered out of the vast range of interests represented. There were those who wanted to study the effect of television on children's behaviour in the playground - whether in its effect on language development - whether that was in the case of a child that sat mute in front of the television, or whether it was in the case of children who learned their English from listening to television. Others wanted to discuss television viewing in class, but felt impeded by copyright restrictions on video recording, or to encourage home viewing like home reading with parents. That would mean talking to parents and broadcasters, but how and where could they start?

If the meeting raised a morass of doubts, questions, hopes and expectations, the regional groups came up with an astonishing number of concrete proposals. Training courses, materials and equipment were uppermost on the list of requirements at the end of the day, and these large and disparate groups were able to cobble together details of where in their own areas they might find them. Among them developed a network across each region, with secondary and primary teachers coordinating and drawing on the resources and expertise of their further education colleges and teacher centres.

It was impressive too to see how much primary and secondary teachers, trainers and advisers have to give each other when they all meet, or to see the primary teacher get an instant promise of action from the I.e.s.s. adviser; the FE college representative agree to an

evening course for teachers; the British Film Institute offer to set up workshops; or broadcaster suggest a studio visit. The responsibility for subsequent action now rests with each of the local groups.

A coordinating group has been formed with a representative from schools, teacher training and advisers in each region. Their job is to meet and report on developments in their own regions, and to filter requirements for money, attend meetings with the television companies and organize a newsletter for spreading information among the I.e.s.s.

At this stage in the project, efforts have been concentrated on educationists building up a network among themselves. Broader issues have not yet been discussed, but their main involvement will not begin until they meet with the coordinating group in March or April. How exactly they might help is not yet clear, but suggestions so far have been teacher secondments to TV companies, visits to studios to see the mechanics of production programmes; written material from producers to explain the production process; shooting scripts to go with programmes that are being studied. So far the representatives at the meetings have usually been the IBA and BBC education officers; it is important that media education makers also become involved.

One thing that has emerged very clearly in this whole exercise is that it is not intended to censor or criticize their programmes but to enhance an understanding of them. The chances of success here depend very much, as Learmonth says, on how important the companies see their general public service role and whether they take it seriously enough to back it up with cooperation and materials around the country.

Parents and teachers will have to work together later. Schemes like Liverpool's Parent Support Scheme which involves parents in school activities and puts on post-school classes for

them could be developed. These could, suggests Learmonth, be extended to cover media education. He also points to the Institute of Education as having run evening classes for mothers in television viewing and how to discuss it with their children. PTA's are another likely channel.

The DES itself will be arranging short in-service courses in July (details to be sent out at the end of this month with a full report on the regional meetings). It will also try to clear people to attend where it can, and provide support for curriculum development with experimental teaching materials. An HMI will be available in each region to answer any questions about media education.

The DES has invested £9,000 in this whole initiative - £900 for each group to fund stationary, visiting lecturers, any administrative costs. Other expenses will have to be met by the I.e.s.s. How much that will materialize will depend on whether the teachers and advisers can persuade them to put media education high on their list of priorities.

In the next academic year, teachers will be working to implement their various ideas on media education - with it, he hopes, sound teaching materials, examples of good practice, the guidance of their colleagues in media studies and their regional working groups. In the end, the future and success of these efforts will depend on the support of the I.e.s.s. The initiative has come from HMI, the pressure must now come from the teachers, but the I.e.s.s. must respond to it if the subject is to gain a firm foothold across the curriculum. The value of HMI's involvement is that it has cut across the impenetrable barriers between the authorities and set up a network of activity across the country.

TV and Schooling, a collection of essays developing the themes of the DES report *Popular TV and Schoolchildren*, will be published by BFI Education on March 13.

notes

4 COMPUTER BUFFS

Channel 4 has waited some time before leaping on to the computing bandwagon. But now that it has leapt the results are set to be a lot of fun. There are two projects. The first is '4 Computer Buffs', a new weekly news and current affairs series which began on Monday. The hour programmes are designed for viewers who want to make better use of computers. They are, said Naomi Sargant, Channel 4's Commissioning Editor for Education part of CA's editor for International Year, January 5.30 evening slot and the emphasis is on features which will appeal to young people.

Subjects to be explored include the potential of moderns; alternatives to BASIC including LOGO and PROLOG; advice on how to construct a programmable vehicle - the Trade which was designed by Robert Morsehead an Ifford teacher, there is also a comparison of different computers.

Most innovative, however, are the means which have been developed to transmit software. The series will show how to assemble a light pen which can read data off a flashing light on the screen straight on to disk or cassette software will also be available via audiotape. There will also be a Press electronic bulletin board for computer users by means of which views can be touched with each other.

The second initiative is a television magazine - 4-tell - which transmits teletext information and software. It will receive 4-tell teletext and television viewers will have to buy an adaptor around £125 which as yet is available only for the Sinclair Spectrum range for other computers are planned however. As yet only small quantities of software are available, from OCL, the company commissioned by Channel 4, who are negotiating with commercial publishers for the right to broadcast more.



MUSEUM EDUCATION

An updated edition of three charts on details information and advice on schools facilities at 60 London museums and galleries is now available from the Centre for Learning Resources.

The charts cover central museums with established museum education departments; central museums without education departments but willing to receive school visits and other London museums and galleries.

The pack also includes an overview leaflet on museum visits which is intended particularly to help new teachers. A free copy of the charts has gone to all ILEA headteachers and teachers' centres. Non-ILEA teachers can apply to the ILEA Museum Adviser, 275 Kennington Lane, London SE11 1JL. They should enclose stamps to the value of 30p.

Video reviews

This month's Video reviews are on page 46 at the back of the Video Extra.

On the loose?

David Self reviews a 'Scene' programme on sexual harassment

SCHOOLS TELEVISION

Scene. BBC-2. Thursdays 10.34am; repeated Fridays 2.00pm.

One of a group of teenage girls complains about a boy who repeatedly harasses her. "Frank - he just grabs your tits". Others complain of being touched as they go around their schools. One tells of how she and a friend tried to turn the tables. "We tried pinching blokes' bums." The blokes enjoyed it. "If a girl does it to a boy, she's loose."

Those are just a few comments from Jill Sheppard's powerful, provocative and rigorously unsensational documentary about sexual harassment which is being shown in Scene this week and next. It is the fifth in a very strong unit of programmes on relations between the sexes and one which shows the series on peak form.

The unit began with a beguiling new play by Chris Ellis, *Your Place or Mine*. An English girl, Rachel, together with her parents and a girl friend stay in a holiday cottage in Wales; a cottage normally inhabited by a Mr Powell and his gauche but likeable nephew, Huw.

Huw is turned out into an old caravan to make room for them and is

later displaced again when Rachel decides she wants to sleep in the caravan (not in fact with her friend but with Huw's older cousin, Richard). Besides being a very well acted play, it is also very funny. Late at night, Huw finally asserts himself by using Richard's car to tow away the caravan. Inside, Richard says in wonder to Rachel, "I think the earth's beginning to move."

It also provided a subtle and effective way into the unit which has included repeats of the documentaries, *How Did You Learn About It?* and *Andy Capp - Fact or Fiction?* as well as the new film, *Sexual Harassment*. This covers 'behaviour which leaves the person receiving and feeling uncomfortable, even miserable, ranging from offensive remarks to direct sexual propositioning. (Terrifyingly, when women have complained about the latter at their place of work, the outcome in 53% of cases has been that the victim has had to change jobs.) What also becomes apparent in the film is that many women (and girls) feel impelled either to ignore it, to go along with it or to feel responsible.

The programme reveals another problem. For whom do girls dress? "I don't see why women shouldn't wear what they want. I wear mini-skirts for me." "We're not out to get sexually harassed." "But we do want to attract

boys." It is one of those rareties, a discussion which informs and stimulates, and it will have enormous positive value for almost every upper school group. (It should perhaps be compulsory viewing in not a few staffrooms as well.) It is explicit but never objectionable, though it may be that subsequent discussions will be more honest if it is viewed in single-sex groups.

Needing perhaps even more care are the subsequent two programmes which have bereavement and grief as their themes. The first is a repeat showing of David Cook's delicate play *If Only* (Feb 28, March 1), while in the following week a new documentary by Peter Evans is to be transmitted. *Death in the Family* is about the rites and rituals surrounding funerals and contains interviews with two families which have recently lost their fathers.

It shows how teenagers are often excluded at such times, and explores the altered family roles. Basically a secular programme, it opens up some of the myths surrounding cremation and is not afraid "to tell the truth as we know it". As Peter Evans says, "It's good for our audience to know about bereavement, and that the rest of the class should have some understanding of what a classmate is experiencing when, say, her sister has been run over."

Views on the screen

Nick Baker on two new series on media education

SCHOOLS TELEVISION/RADIO

English Film Media Studies BBC 2 Fridays 8, 15, 22 February and March 1 at 2.30

Media Studies: Radio Workshop Radio 4 VHF/FM night time. Thursday February 28 and Friday, March 1, 00.30-01.10

At long last the BBC is recognizing the amount of media studies going on in secondary schools, and has responded with a series of special programmes broadcast on radio and television. What was served up in the *English Film Media Studies* in a series on media studies was some more or less predictable facts about newspapers (different people read them for different reasons; on any given day different national papers will choose to lead different stories, and so on) followed by a documentary account of a day in the *Mirror* newsroom. If the over-enthusiastic Kelly had been worth his salt he'd have pressed listener-editor Mike Molloy about some of the question-avoiding he did in the interview sequence.

This week's programme, *Moving Pictures* (repeated on 22nd February) isn't much better. I'm afraid. It shows the 14th year Film and TV Studies group of Kidbrooke Comprehensive School putting a sequence of pictures in order so that they mean something. Or, as the BBC notes have it, "drawing conclusions from the clues embodied in each as to the nature and purpose of this short picture story." The pictures are stills from an advertisement for a spot-cream, which could only have one possible sequence.

The whole programme in fact went to great lengths to explain that any piece of film is a series of pictures arranged in sequence, something that seems almost risibly obvious. The first programme in the series of *Radio Workshops* is gratifyingly down to earth, providing a useful overview of the practical production of the sort of radio with which young people are most likely to be familiar, the news and sport features that form part of most pop and local channels' daily output. There's less about the technical side of radio, but for less familiar with the conventions of radio drama.

"Radio is at its most powerful in its

ability to evoke atmosphere and expectations", says dramatist Roy Apples in the second programme. He's right, of course. So why devote so much time to a deliberately poor example of the genre? *Someone's Been Lying* by Do-flores J. Dalrymple is almost 15 minutes of intentional mistakes, wrapped up in a none too funny "cod" script, followed by a short explanation on what was wrong and why.

Teachers using the series might be wise to introduce pupils to the drama format with an example of an effective excerpt from a play and to concentrate on the useful and practical notes on simple drama production available for use with the series.

We're back in familiar territory again in the third of the programmes, which deals with the production of the seamless format typical of local radio, Radio 2 and, increasingly, of Radio 4. Not only does the programme allow us a fascinating eavesdrop into the off-air life of a busy radio station, it also provides some insight into the work on the different forms of programming, from phone-in to feature. Both the programme and the notes that go with it are invaluable.

Sense and sex

Victoria Neumark reviews a sex education series

SCHOOL RADIO

Sex Education BBC Radio 4 VHF Night-time broadcast Thursday Jan 31, Fri Feb 1, 00.30-01.10

If there is one thing sex is not for teenagers, it is boring. What a pity, then, that the BBC's latest offering in this currently fashionable area of moral outrage is so dull. The programme is hosted by Dr Maryn Gay, a family psychiatrist, and Diane Marshall of the Leicester Health Education Unit, who answer written questions and discuss groups of rather articulate teenagers.

It is unfortunate that both adults have such dry and reasonable manners that I thought it would be impossible for any teenager to believe they have any first-hand experience of the thrills, the chills, the glamour and the misery of sex. Even this adult listener had moments of serious doubt.

What should I do if my boyfriend wants to go all the way but I don't want to?

"... but I don't want to lose him!" Back comes the hokey answer, "Strength of character always commands respect." O yes! As is well known, *Some Girls Do* and *Some Girls Don't*, which commands more respect is a very hard question, whatever adults would like to believe.

In general, though the questions are true to life and are, indeed, the same old questions, the answers are just so much dead wood culled from PPA manuals and Sensible Books About Your Developing Body, such as teenagers have sneered at without profit for decades.

Though the producers have divided the material up into two programmes on 'Asking and Making Choices' (staying out late and finding out about consent), Relationships (including homosexuality, changes (puberty) Conception and Contraception, these arbitrary lines are muzzily drawn. Thus a visit to the Family Planning Clinic comes in the first programme, but a question like "Why do I need an internal examination?" is not answered until the fourth. You need

regular checks for your health if you are on the Pill."

Leaving aside the fact that this may be wildly inappropriate advice for teenagers, it is also unhelpful. Decisions cannot be made on the basis of inadequate information, pace Mrs Gillick (and every programme carries a statutory Gillick warning). The snippet, or problem page-based format means that every aspect is touched on but none explored. Herpes and the Special Clinic, the pros and cons of having children at all; different couples' approach to Pill, sheath or coil, all receive minimal airing. Pre-menstrual tension is pretty much dismissed as all in the mind despite numerous studies which have shown poor exam performance, criminal activity and suicide to be correlated with P.M.T.

Homosexuality is said to be relative to culture, but also to be a passing phase, and an unalterable fact of some people's nature. And really, who wants to be told - or will ever believe - that making yourself more attractive depends on having a better idea about yourself?

MEDIA

briefings

radio & tv

For schools

YOU AND ME

(Monday, Wednesday, 10.00, Tuesday, Thursday, 14.00 BBC2)

This week's programmes for the very young feature cartoons, documentaries, games and sketches all about elementary maths and science.

ZIG ZAG

(Monday, 11.00, Wednesday, 14.40 BBC2)

The last in the unit about 'The Eskimos' looks at the way the women care for home and children while the men are hunting. Seven to nine year olds learn children's games and Eskimo names.

ALIVE AND KICKING

(Tuesday, 9.59, Thursday, 11.14 ITV)

A two part unit about 'Looking after the Young' begins by showing five to eight year olds the variety of ways animals care for their young. Illustrates the need of both animals and humans for food, sleep, love and protection.

THE MICROAT WORK

(Wednesday, 10.04, Thursday, 11.43 ITV)

'Is There A Place For Me?' shows the importance of the computer in booking both holidays and theatre tickets. Nine to thirteen year olds are also introduced to the *Travel Agent* software package which accompanies the series.

NEAR AND FAR

(Thursday, 11.05 BBC2) How are coastlines formed? Which are the features commonly seen at the seashore? Nine to eleven year olds investigate the action of the waves and tides.

MODERN CHINA

(Friday, 11.39 ITV) A study of the Chinese philosophical emphasis on maintaining a balance in life. Shows traditional medicine and treatment alongside some early Chinese scientific inventions.

Continuing education

VIEW AT THE TOP

(Sunday, 16.30 VHF4) Nicholas Kitchen talks to top managers of British companies about their work and achievements. Begins by discussing with Lord Marsh his approach to his work.

CENTRAL AMERICAN JOURNEY

(Sunday, 20.30 Radio 4) A presentation of the political and cultural life of each of eight countries in Central America. Violent revolution amid breathtaking natural beauty.

MATHEMATICAL THINKING

(Wednesday, 12.30 BBC2) The last in this repeat series for teachers on the ways to implement the Cockcroft report. Here problems are encountered during a school meals project.

JULIUS CAESAR

(Wednesday, 21.00 C4) To mark the centenary of Handel's birth, the English National Opera's performance of one of his most successful works.

ITV FOR SCHOOLS AND COLLEGES

French drama 'LA BELLE VIE' An 80-minute play written for television by Jean Anouilh (1978), to be broadcast in five 20-minute episodes, each with an introduction in French. Transcript and programme outline available in March 1985 (£1.60). Annotated book with play text and exploitation ideas for the classroom - to be published in July 1985 (£3.50).

The play is set in Munich in 1919. An aristocratic family, threatened by death from a firing squad, is relieved so that they can serve the revolution as a living museum of the bourgeoisie. Obligated to re-enact their way of life for a public audience (3 performances daily), the characters focus on the futility of their family relationships and experience the gradual awakening of a new tolerance and harmony.

German for graded objectives

PARTNER TV 1 Year 1 of a new entertainment programme for young German learners (German as FL 1). The programme was recorded in Wuppertal in 1984 and is entirely in German. The magazine format allows teachers to re-use extracts for intensive classroom. The register and level of difficulty varies from section to section and the teacher's Video Book (available in July 1985) will provide the full text and detailed notes on learning activities. Worksheets for duplication are provided for each short section to guide.

activity films • pop music • cartoons • puzzles • competitions • documentary information • extracts from German TV • interviews with teenagers • penfriend exchange

Introduced by the presenters, Dieter and Brigitte, from Hays der Jugend in Wuppertal-Barmen.

Spring Term 1985

THE FRENCH PROGRAMME

Mondays 11.38 - 11.55
Feb 25, Mar 4, Mar 11, Mar 18, Mar 25
'La belle vie' by Jean Anouilh (see above)

THE GERMAN PROGRAMME

Tuesdays 10.37 - 10.57
Feb 26, Mar 5, Mar 12, Mar 19, Mar 26, Mar 26, Mar 29
Partner TV 1 (see above)

Teachers' notes for all these series can be obtained from: The Schools Publications Office, Thames Television Ltd., 149 Tottenham Court Road, London W1P 0PL, or from the Education Officer at your local ITV company.

4 Television Programme Recording

Tiles Available for Week Commencing Sunday 17th Feb 1985

Sunday 17th February
17.30 The Business Programme
fee code F
19.15 Gangs Channel fee code C
22.15 City General: A Piece They Would Never Want To Go fee code B
Wednesday 20th February
18.30 The Living Body: Accident fee code E
19.30 News: National fee code E

Friday 22nd February
15.45 Years Ahead fee code B
19.30 Right To Reply fee code A
20.15 A Week In Politics fee code B
Saturday 23rd February
13.00 Everybody Here II fee code C
For full information contact
TV Recording Licence Dept.
GUILD LEARNING
Guild House Peterborough PE2 9PZ
Telephone 0733 63122

4 TELEVISION PROGRAMME RECORDING

Advance Information of Programmes Available For Recording During March 1985

March 1st	16.00 Built In Britain	Fee Code B	March 2nd	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A
March 2nd	19.30 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B	March 3rd	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F
March 3rd	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F	March 4th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B
March 4th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B	March 5th	15.45 Years Ahead	Fee Code B
March 5th	15.45 Years Ahead	Fee Code B	March 6th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B
March 6th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B	March 7th	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B
March 7th	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B	March 8th	16.00 Built In Britain	Fee Code B
March 8th	16.00 Built In Britain	Fee Code B	March 9th	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A
March 9th	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A	March 10th	20.15 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B
March 10th	20.15 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B	March 11th	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F
March 11th	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F	March 12th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B
March 12th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B	March 13th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B
March 13th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B	March 14th	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B
March 14th	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B	March 15th	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A
March 15th	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A	March 16th	20.15 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B
March 16th	20.15 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B	March 17th	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F
March 17th	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F	March 18th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B
March 18th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B	March 19th	15.45 Years Ahead	Fee Code B
March 19th	15.45 Years Ahead	Fee Code B	March 20th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B
March 20th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B	March 21st	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B
March 21st	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B	March 22nd	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A
March 22nd	19.30 Right To Reply	Fee Code A	March 23rd	20.15 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B
March 23rd	20.15 A Week In Politics	Fee Code B	March 24th	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F
March 24th	17.30 The Business Programme	Fee Code F	March 25th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B
March 25th	19.30 City General	Fee Code B	March 26th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B
March 26th	18.30 The Living Body	Fee Code B	March 27th	20.30 Diverse Reports	Fee Code B
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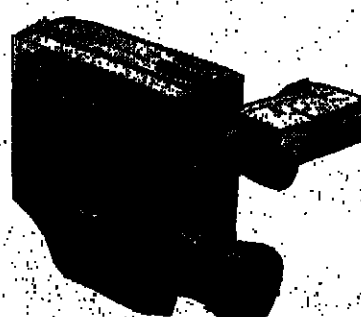
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Movie news

Panasonic has announced that it will start selling a VHS camcorder (combined video recorder and camera) this May. It will be called VHS Movie. Already JVC is selling a VHS camcorder, called Video Movie, and Sony is selling the rival Beta format, called Beta-Movie. So why is the Panasonic launch newsworthy?

Because the Panasonic camcorder uses a full-size VHS cassette offering in theory, up to three or four hours of continuous recording. This is more than either of the other units. But note well the proviso, "in theory".

This has the major disadvantage that it only records. Tapes recorded on Beta Movie must be played back on a conventional Beta machine. Then came JVC's VHS Video Movie, with the same machine marketed under different names by firms like Ferguson. VHS Video Movie plays back, through a miniature TV tube built into the viewfinder. This is useful, because it lets the camera operator check that the pictures really are going down onto tape. The snag with Video-Movie is that it takes only miniature VHS cassettes, which run for half an hour. These can be replayed in the camcorder or they can be played in a domestic machine by loading them into an adaptor, which is like a full-size VHS cassette with a hole in the middle for the miniature C (for compact) cassette.

Panasonic is the brand name of Matsushita, which is JVC's parent company. Matsushita says it regards the C-cassette as a compromise. So the new VHS camcorder takes a full-size VHS cassette which can offer up to four hours recording time, or more usually three hours. But don't get too excited about this. It is there really any hardship in changing cassettes every half hour? More to the point, the batteries needed to run a four-hour tape would be far too heavy for a portable.

The Panasonic rechargeable Nicad battery weighs 600 grammes and is claimed to run the machine for two

Setting standards

Barry Fox on the interactive video market

hard fact information from teletext signals is buried in the disc. This can be displayed on a conventional teletext set.

The Philips VP-831 LaserVision player, at around £700, has the extra facility of an RS-232 computer socket on the rear. This enables the player to be hooked up to a computer, which is then programmed to search out a section of the disc under keyboard control. Usually the programming instructions are contained in one or more computer floppy discs. Immediately this creates a problem with compatibility between different computers and different program languages. Apart from anything else, different computers use different sizes and types of floppy disc which can't be interchanged.

This is why Philips also offers the VP-835, at well over £1,000. It has an onboard computer and stores the necessary program in a pre-packaged solid state memory cartridge, which plugs in like a video game. Although convenient, it adds another dimension to the confusion of standards.

The situation may get worse, as Philips and the BBC pursue their plans for a Domesday disc. Despite BBC publicity about this being a "world standard", it is not. It will be a standard PAL disc, playable on modified European PAL equipment, but the disc will not play on American equipment. The engineers behind the project have not decided on how to mix picture signals, data text and computer programs on the same disc to preserve compatibility with existing PAL players, but at the same time let the Domesday player display pictures and data without undue search delay between instructions. The promise of a two-disc set by September 1986, to mark the 900th anniversary of the original Domesday Book, will be hard to meet. If the project is skimped, all concerned risk getting egg on their faces.

Thorn-EMI has never sold the VHD system domestically in Britain, so there are no playable discs in high street shops. The only programmes available are those made for education and industry, for instance as a training aid for British Steel, for the Health Education Council or for the Manpower Services Commission, to help Britain's growing army of job seekers.

The most exotic VHD interactive system relies on a computer with floppy discs, printer, monitor and VHD player all under computer keyboard control. As an alternative, for instance as part of the Health

Education Council's scheme to teach school children about the dangers of alcohol abuse, Thorn-EMI offers a simplified package. This has a small computer and a VHD player by infra-red control links. The basic player costs £450 and the controllers and computer interfaces around £20 each.

All the systems mentioned rely on permanent display at the Interactive Video Centre, a Marylebone Road, London, NW1. Angus Doulton hopes later to have some more systems installed, for instance a highly sophisticated package, which combines a LaserVision player with an IBM computer and a touch sensitive screen, that children can select options by poking their grimy fingers at a screen rather than operating a keyboard. Acorn recently made a rather more advanced announcement about an interactive video package. This uses a LaserVision player with an Acorn computer, but at the surprisingly low cost of between £3,000 and £4,000.

Being close to the TV market, Doulton sees only too well how easy to standardize will block games. "Making interactive video programmes need not be expensive, American hospital made a device for 10,000 dollar budget," he says. "people will not invest in software, they know there is hardware. And I know there is no major education project under way in Britain."

If the industry continues to be ment, before even creating a market for interactive video, the chances of a healthy market developing are small. But the manufacturers and writers argue, with irrefragable logic, that it is too early to set a standard. The market has to shake itself out just as it did with narrow gauge before VHS emerged as the dominant format.

The supreme irony of interactive video, is that while the government is busy cutting back on funds available for education, the Department of Trade and Industry is paying £10 million (the same as Philips) to the BBC's Domesday Project. It is a fact, through the disc, which is available, it will set back the interactive video by years. But if it succeeds, and the discs achieve all that is promised, the DTI must be the cuckoo land if it believes that the majority of schools will be able to afford the special hardware necessary to play the two Domesday discs.

Although doubtless this claim is justified, it needs qualifying. The time for which a battery in a portable tape without starting and stopping Rechargeable nickel-cadmium batteries seldom perform perfectly, in practice they usually seem to stand up to power than they should. Also operators want to start and stop the camera, lining up shots through an electronic viewfinder and recording previously shot sequences. All this drains the battery power. So the use of the electronic-powered camera lens control. Serious video makers who prepare what they are shooting will be lucky to get more than half an hour of action on tape with VHD Movie before needing to change the battery. In the long term, however, the Panasonic move is significant. The camcorder uses the same miniature head drum and mechanics which were developed for JVC's Video-Movie. That's why it is smaller than you would think possible. The next stage of development could perhaps be a miniature domestic, mains-powered machine, which uses miniature mechanical tape. The price of the Panasonic camcorder is not fixed, partly because of the fluctuating state of the pound, but also expect much change. If any, it will be £1,000.

Barry Fox

MEDIA KIDS

'Media Kids OK?' is probably a more valuable introduction to media education in primary schools than any textbook or teachers' manual. Nick Baker reports

pupils who suggested showing only part of a shot to disguise the villain's identity - all in the interest of keeping the suspense going.

It's a style of working, in groups, with plenty of discussion and rehearsal, which many primary teachers are at home with, particularly those with drama experience. The wary are allowed, through unobtrusive "fly on the wall" camerawork to watch Merrison and a full class preparing a simulated news broadcast. In longshot, it looks like a noisy class. Close up, the children are shown working very hard. The amount of reading to each other, as well as talking and listening to each other is impressive. This sequence and others in the video show Merrison working with full classes around the 30 mark - defeating criticisms that this sort of work is impractical except in small groups.



As far as cost is concerned, teachers can create their own picture stories (without video) for the price of the

high street chemist's developing charge and the film. Most schools (or teachers or pupils) will have a camera available.

And Merrison sings the praises of the virtually idiot-proof Canon Autofocus for prospective buyers. A tripod is a useful accessory, as it allows more than one person to look at possible shots.

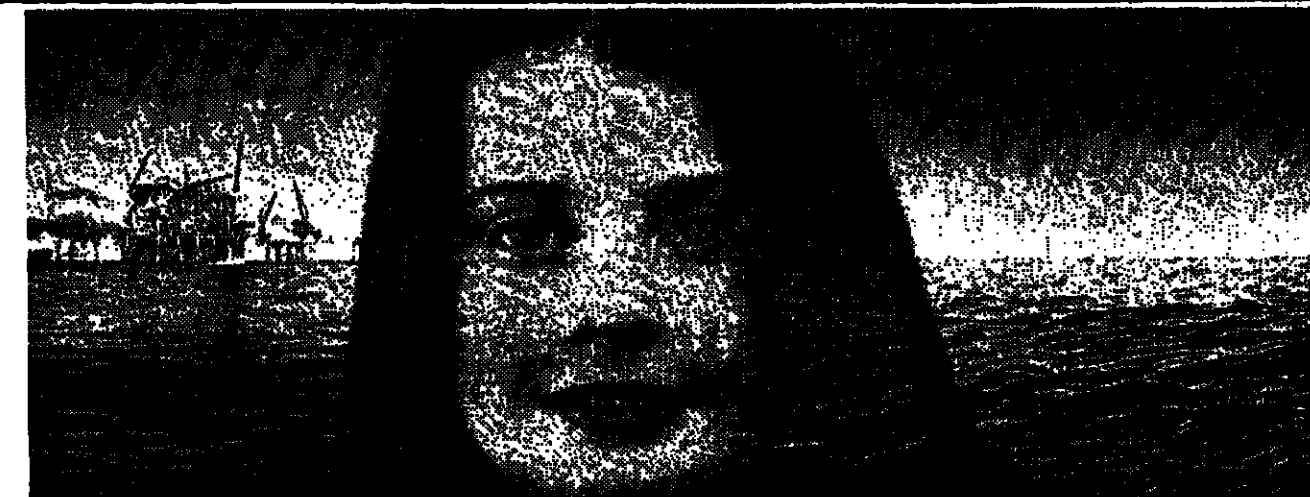
As far as video is concerned, lots of schools and virtually all teachers' centres have one or more cassettes. An important point to make to prospective buyers of portable video recorders - make sure the equipment you buy doesn't cause "picture break up" in between shots. Putting on still photographs, either slides or prints, is no problem. Children can give the impression of a moving picture by moving the camera over the still photograph or slide. Editing is no problem. Merrison's advice on the subject is clear.

Don't. Simply shoot whatever you want in the sequence you want it. A huge variety of soundtrack can be achieved using an audio dub socket on any video recorder. Music, speech, sound effects can all be recorded afterwards. More technically-minded teachers might like to experiment with mixers, but that's not vital.

Media Kids OK? is probably a more valuable introduction to media education in primary schools than any textbook or teachers' manual, because its bias is so practical. It's hoped that the BFI, who partly fund the Leicester Media Education Project, will organize the distribution of the video. But does Merrison see an increased awareness of the professional media in children he has taught? "After a year," he says, "it's too hard to tell. What I hope the video gets across to teachers is that it's a great way to learn and have fun at the same time."

Peter Baker, who organized Merrison's secondment, is happy that at least some of the children in Leicester primaries have reached "media literacy". If they go to secondary schools which have media studies courses, they will have covered an important part of the groundwork.

Media Kids OK? is available from Leicester Centre for Educational Technology, Knighton Fields Teachers' Centre, Herriek Road, Leicester (tel: Leicester 706906).



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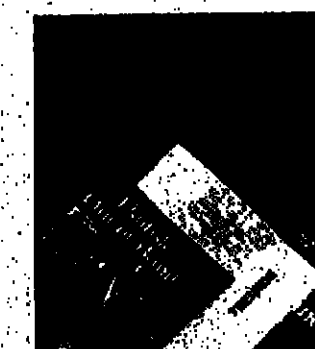
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5-16

Her Majesty's Inspectors touched on a neural point in the education system when they brought together English and media education in the discussion document *English from 5 to 16*. Literacy is the one aspect of education that everybody cares about, so both the document and the responses it invited received considerable press comment around the time of its publication last November. Most of this comment centred upon the document's provocative suggestion that the formal study of English grammar, as well as its correct usage, should be given more attention in English lessons. But *English from 5 to 16* took a different kind of risk when it also suggested that pupils should be able to understand and evaluate entertainment in television, video and film.

The HMI document talks of "non-verbal accompaniments to speech" as if these were always incidental to meaning. But as Media Studies repeatedly demonstrates, meanings in the contemporary media with which pupils are most familiar are not dependent upon words alone. Looking at what is shown in *News at Ten* as closely as what is said, an exercise we encourage in teaching about television, reveals at once that television is not simply verbal communication with illustrations. The medium itself determines meanings in quite sophisticated ways.

English from 5 to 16 sets out objectives in listening, speaking, reading and writing to be reached by pupils aged 7, 11 and 16. Television and video can play an important practical role in achieving these aims. Both provide not only a resource for practising certain language skills: they offer concrete instances of the way language is really used in society and are of obvious relevance when, as the DES report *Popular TV and Schoolchildren* pointed out, young people between five and 14 spend an average of 23 hours per week watching television.

For 7-year-old pupils almost all the objectives given in the document for listening concern the development of "comprehension, understanding, retention, recall, and evaluation". Contrary to the document, however, experience suggests that young children listen actively to television and can recall complicated stories. Some children may have missed the pleasure of listening to a story "live", and school can offer this; but many will be familiar with television stories and dramas which teachers can draw upon.

Last night's television also provides a useful context for talk; children ask perceptive questions about what they have seen (and enjoyed) and others may be encouraged to do so when presented with a shared and common experience. Until television copyright is altered to legalize the educational use of video recordings, this will have to remain a "morning after" experience but a great deal of school talk is already about this topic, and some teachers are already asking how *The A Team* (or, for that matter, *Blue Peter*) works and why, rather than just condemning or celebrating them.

For 11-year-olds the stress in the document upon the importance of listening actively and attentively. Listening and understanding the way a story is told, either by the teacher or on television, is indeed an activity to be practised. Again, many children of 11 have little difficulty in following complicated television dramas and it may be a mistake just to discuss, as the document suggests, those plays written for this age range, when television

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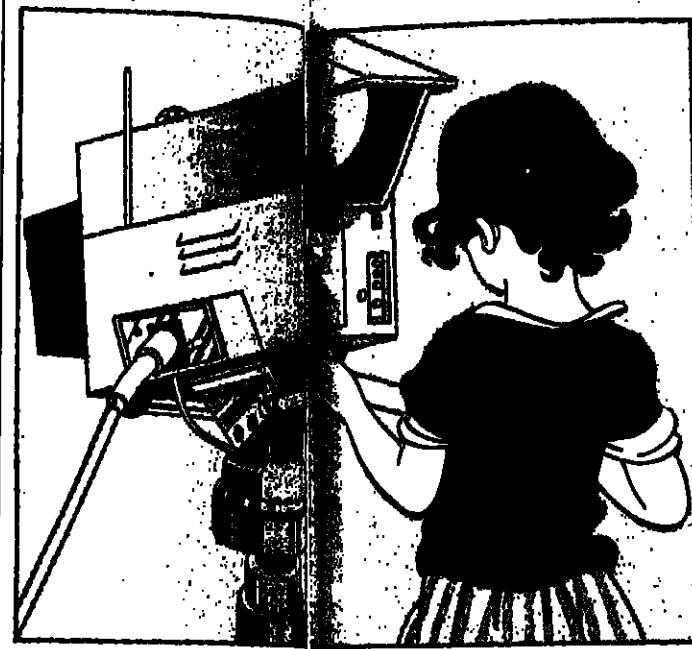
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A matter of course

What do the latest curriculum developments mean for television, video and film studies? Philip Simpson looks at the findings for the 5 to 16 age group, while Mike Clarke discusses 16 plus



used by the DES document as a model for this stage, and emphasized that under 16 stage. For relating the list on a tomato sauce bottle to additional this distinction might be but "reading" a news or drama programme on television and film in those instances where it matters.

Television may be a more system of signs than the printed word, the assumption that fact can be read is open to question. But institutions play a part: any reading has seen or taken part in a demonstration and then, with a 30-second news item on it, we will realize just what the problem that distinction are. The *Image SEIT* shows this and fits into the curriculum.

For 16-year-old pupils only, from 5 to 16 makes direct reference to film, video and television, and comments about the value and quality of what is seen are encouraged. However, it will be making such judgements earlier than this, and in the television particularly, they are to discuss their experience of television and their teachers are.

It is good to see popular attention at last proposed as worthy of attention, and English teachers can now value working out how CSE, O/A, and A level in Film Studies are adapted as elements in English or Media syllabuses described by Mike Clarke in an adjacent article can be used.

By the 16-year-old stage, indeed, of the objectives listed might be made by using audio-visual media. In "Listening" objectives might be made through the use of television and film, and the "Speaking" objectives would be only the modest video equipment used by some schools and most colleges. "Reading television" for information, pleasure, with critical attention, understanding, and within a social and responsible framework is itself an objective.

work in media studies must be preserved and expanded. Besides its "flagship" value, it is also of crucial importance as a proving ground for the development of new ideas, and as an institutional space for teachers with a commitment to media education.

Examination courses in Film Studies, Television Studies and allied areas (collectively, "Media Studies") really took off with the advent of CSE. By 1981 there were well over 100 such CSE courses in England and Wales. Although many of them allowed both teachers and students to make tremendous strides, the fact that they were "only CSEs" created difficulties. More able students were directed into traditional subjects (with the miracle ingredient: O level) and, to behold Media Studies had an image problem - it was seen as a "sink" subject, expected to absorb all the school's awkward customers. The AEB's Mode III A/O level in Film Studies has little on this, because it had a very different target audience and itself received little publicity.

Whatever problems and openings there may have been in the past, everything is about to change. This coming September will be the last in which fourth year students will begin courses in either CSE or O level Film Studies. In 1987, different varieties of Media Studies will all shortly disappear.

From September 1986 we enter a new era, the Age of GCSE. Opinion generally seems fairly mixed about the new system: teachers have long wanted a single examination, but the proposals outlined by the Secretary of State in June 1984 include features, like criterion referencing, whose implications are far from clear - except that they are bound to require extra work from all those involved with syllabus preparation and examination.

From the Media Studies point of view the situation is also unclear: some teachers expect most specialist teaching to be swept away, while others regard the new 16+ as a way of establishing Media Studies more firmly in the school curriculum. One other consequence of introducing the new GCSE seems inescapable: neither media teachers nor other subject specialists are going to be able to operate the new system without a great deal of relevant, focused in-service training.

However, a long time ago - even at the British Film Institute/Goldsmiths College Biennial Media Education Conference in 1981 - it was evident that media teachers needed to pay attention to the emerging new structure. Warnings from Len Masterman led to the setting-up of a Society for Education in Film and Television (SEFT) working party to devise national criteria for 16+ exams in Media Studies. Draft national criteria were published in *SCREEN* in March/April 1983, and discussed at a conference in Leicester in May. At the same time a Leicestershire group began writing an actual syllabus proposal for the Midland Examination Group (MEG).

While the SEFT national criteria were being re-worked (a second draft has just emerged), the Leicestershire proposals were completed, considered by MEG, and sent back for extensive revision. In the interim, Sir Keith Joseph had finally announced that GCSE would go ahead and many things had gradually become

clearer. One of these was that by no means all subjects will have their own specialist, national criteria; another was that the increased bureaucracy of the new system will lead to a substantial reduction in the number of syllabuses - not least, on economic and administrative grounds.

In many areas of the country this will undoubtedly mean that separate examinations in Film Studies, Television Studies, Mass Communications, will no longer be viable. The case for media teachers getting together to thrash out what ought to be in a 16+ syllabus has never been stronger or more urgent.

In Leicestershire, agreement on the goals of Media Studies was quickly reached. The draft syllabus aims to "encourage informed, critical analysis of media output through the development of a wider understanding of the languages, structures and processes of the mass media; disseminate practical skills in media production; foster an active interest in the continuing debates about the place of the mass media in society."

Television and film are seen as central: moving images with sound are now so important as sources of information and imaginative experience that their understanding has to be basic to any Media Studies course. As well as satisfying the relevant committees that it will be effective as an instrument of assessment, the Leicestershire proposal aims to offer opportunities for existing and varied activities, for example in practical coursework, which counts for 20 per cent of the total marks in the examination.

Practical work has been given this degree of prominence in the Leicestershire proposal basically because it is a syllabus in Media Studies, not one in practical video or television techniques per se. Twenty per cent is sufficient to allow - indeed, demand - a substantial commitment of time and energy. Students may submit up to 20 minutes of audiovisual material in their two projects for assessment; these may be any kind of video or film - fiction, documentary, music video, animation, - or things like photographic essays or tape-slide presentations, which can be so useful in developing production skills as well as being challenging in their own right.

The importance of varied practical activity is unquestioned, but the Leicestershire group have also wanted to insist that it be combined with a sound conceptual framework. Five notions, none of them particularly simple, are seen as fundamental throughout. These are: the construction of meaning (through selection and combination of elements); the role of conventions in media productions; the mediation of events by individuals, organizations and technological processes in their transformation into fictional or non-fictional media products; representation and stereotyping; the institutions of the media (the existence and changing nature of systems of production and distribution).

There is only space here for this very brief sketch of some aspects of a 16+ Media Studies syllabus. Other plans are going ahead in London and in Wales. Proposals for the future of media education in general are good, now that BFI governors and HMI are taking a growing interest in media education. *Popular TV and Schoolchildren*, the DES report, has still to be acted upon fully (see page 30).

However, there is no doubt that the mid-1980s are a crucial time for media teachers. The demise of CSE and rise of GCSE must be grasped firmly as an unprecedented opportunity for film, video and television education to move towards its rightful position as a vital part of every student's school experience.

Mike Clarke is Advisory Teacher for Media Education, based at the Leicestershire Centre for Educational Technology.

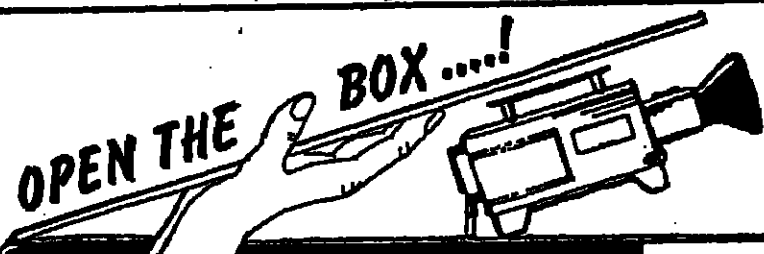
are new to teaching about the media. It will study "Approaches to Teaching about the Media", introducing some basic concepts and teaching strategies. Members will have the opportunity to explore teaching materials and undertake a practical video exercise. Applications and £25 fees must be submitted by March 15 to Julie Maher, BFI Education (Easter School), 81 Dean Street, London W1V 6AA (tel: 437 4355).

For further details contact Sean Cubitt at SEFT, 29 Old Compton Street, London W1V 5PL (tel: 01-734 321/5455).

FILM AND VIDEO DISTRIBUTION
A conference on the future of film and video distribution in education is to be held on April 15 and 16 by the British Universities Film and Video Council. Issues to be discussed include the

developing crisis in traditional areas of non-theatrical distribution; proposed changes in legislation concerning off-air recording; video publishing and cable. Producers, distributors, teachers, librarians and educational advisers should apply for further details to The Future of Film and Video Distribution, British Universities Film and Video Council, 55 Greek Street, London W1V 6AA (tel: 01-437 4355).

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The BFI Archive has published a new edition of its "Catalogue of Viewing Copies". Researchers and students can view the programmes on a Steinbeck by prior arrangement (£2 per hour, £2 for students, and an extra charge for any group wanting to use the small basement cinema) at 81 Dean Street, London W1V 6AA (tel: 01-437 4355).



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Bill Hicks looks at the expanding range of video enterprises among the television companies

Britain's television companies are involved in a prolonged, convoluted love-hate relationship with video recorders; a relationship which is always on the verge of a splendid consummation, but which never seems quite to deliver the promised riches.

It is about seven years since video recorders became cheap and reliable enough for both schools and individuals to consider acquiring one, yet even now, only a minute fraction of the cumulative output of the United Kingdom's television broadcasts, is readily available on cassette.

To look on the bright side, it must be said that, for educational video users, the state of affairs has improved greatly in the last three years. Schools and other institutions have gained the vital right to record all BBC Schools broadcasts. A similar provision has been granted by ITV companies, based on an annual £5 licence issued by the ITCA to local education authorities. Similarly, the sophisticated educational TV of the Open University can legally be recorded by schools who buy a licence from the OU's distributor, Guild Learning of Peterborough.

Efforts are being made within ITCA companies to widen the range of programmes covered by such licences. Already the blanket ITCA scheme includes a number of continuing education and general interest programmes emanating from various sources (see the IBA's "TV Take Up" leaflet for latest information). And, as TES readers should know, two companies, Channel 4 and London Weekend Television, have taken the initiative to establish their own, wider voluntary licensing schemes for educational recording.

But over and above these various schemes, several television companies are making a selection of their output available on cassette for sale or hire. These are largely educational programmes, but there are some general ones too.

Yorkshire Television for example, has developed an attractive package of programmes for sale, tailored specifically for the needs and budgets of schools. Its first "Video Education" catalogue, compiled by Geoff Foster and YTV's community education officer, Mary Hunter, includes the 10-part series *How We Used To Live*, (20 21-minute programmes, all for £90); *The Cold War Games* (six 26-minute programmes for £55); continuing education series such as *Nature At Work* and *Counting On*; and a 56-minute biography *Frederick Delius Songs of Farewell* (£45). Coming soon are three first Tuesday specials investigating the current heroin epidemic; another first Tuesday film about rubella; *Jorvik* about the new Viking centre in York; and the complete economics series, *Question of Economics*, made by YTV for Channel 4. Copious support materials are available for these cassettes, ranging from the ubiquitous teachers' notes to, in one case, a set of complementary computer programs.

The Yorkshire scheme is notable for its relatively low cost per programme - achieved, according to Geoff Foster, by setting minority interests, expensive-to-clear programmes, against cheap but fast-selling money spinners. Like LWT, YTV is a commercial, profit-making organization.

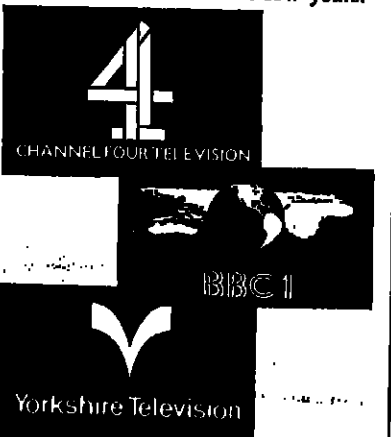
The scheme - in my opinion one of the most enterprising and hope-inspiring developments for educational video of the moment - is merely a development of the type of non-theatrical programme sales operation now run by most large British TV companies.

In fact, the BBC, with its worldwide success with classic series like the *Foray Saga*, laid the foundation for such operations. BBC Enterprises was also one of the first TV-linked companies to recognize the potential of the domestic video software market.

When that market was experiencing its most rapid growth, in 1979/80, BBC Enterprises unveiled plans to launch a

lavish home video catalogue, full of classic series, comedies, and entertainment for general consumption. But it took the company more than two years to secure the necessary agreements with all the performers and technicians' unions for video release, by which time the video software market here was in a sorry state, roughly divided between Hollywood-originated blockbusters and their many derivatives, soft-porn merchants and the illicit, often nasty offerings of the pirates. Yet, BBC Video has established itself as a successful consumer video label, kept afloat, perhaps, by the spectacular successes of videos of royal events and the Falklands affair, as well as the most recent pop-music video phenomenon. Its latest releases, to the joy of British comedy fans, include classic episodes of *Hancock's Half Hour*.

On the educational side, BBC Enterprises continues to produce one of the most tempting non-theatrical sales catalogues, beautifully illustrated, packed with details of all those marvelous science, natural history, arts, features and drama series enjoyed by UK viewers over the last few years.



The BBC Enterprises catalogue now has a strong rival in the shape of Thames Television International's new "Education and Training Catalogue 1984/85". Like the BBC catalogue, it provides a useful resumé of what Thames TV has produced in the recent past and, like the BBC catalogue, its main function is to stimulate overseas sales.

Another new, somewhat more relevant catalogue has just been published by LWT, Channel 4, Trident International and Gramplan TV, listing the educational programmes available on video from their joint distributor, Richard Price TV Associates (RPTA). Latest releases include the six-part LWT series about the working of the City of London, called *The Square Mile*; the same company's *The Making of Modern London*; profiles of poet Seamus Heaney; a seven-part survey of impressionist painting presented by the late Tom Keating; and three 52-minute programmes in the series *Jesus: The Evidence*. Prices quoted range from £45 to £56 per programme, depending on running time, with discounts for complete series.

Graffiti Television is another major provider of ITV educational programmes, particularly in science and natural history subjects, and it also sells programmes for non-theatrical audiences (though, to my knowledge, has no catalogue at present). Graffiti TV also maintains its own consumer video label, and has recently appointed Polygram Video as its sole UK distributor. New releases include six cassettes of Evelyn Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited*; and the 1983 Lawrence Olivier production of *King Lear*; six episodes of *Coronation Street* from the early 1960s; and a *Men of Our Time* documentary about Mahatma Gandhi.

The educational offerings of other ITCA companies are equally interesting, though less understandable regional preoccupations and generally much smaller operations. Anglia TV, for example, has recently entered the video market with nine titles, including a 51-minute performance of Benjamin

Britten's *The Young Persons' Guide to the Orchestra*, and six one-hour programmes from its *World of Survival* series (all £19.95 each).

Border Television markets only two video programmes - *Steam on the Seattle and Carlisle*, and *The Commonwealth CPA Conference on the Isle of Man* - but intends to extend its range. Channel TV, separated both physically and administratively from the UK mainland, has developed its own, very interesting range of video services for the Jersey education authority. It offers video production services, specializing in under-sea filming as well as video library facilities.

All 15 ITCA companies have community education officers whose chief function is to help teachers to make the best possible use of ITV programmes. If at all possible, they will generally help them obtain copies of programmes not available through other channels.

In addition to the television companies themselves, there are a number of well-established independent sources of TV-originated materials on video. The Concord Films Council is still unrivalled as a source for documentaries on world development, social welfare and human rights issues from all UK television companies, and its catalogue continues to expand in a most satisfying way. Guild Learning remains a major source of TV documentaries and educational programmes from several companies, notably Thames. Some of the best arts films transmitted on LWT's *South Bank Show* are available on hire from the Arts Council Film Library.

With one or two exceptions, all the above relates to TV programmes which are either self-consciously, or demonstrably, educational. What about the three-quarters or more of all TV output which has no educational pretensions whatsoever, and which consistently occupies the top 20 or 30 places in the viewing charts? As those who teach media studies, or who have attempted to approach television as one of the most powerful influences in contemporary society will realize, it is harder to use a recording of, say *Game For a Laugh* in the classroom, and stay on the right side of the law, than it is to show all 13 hours of Kenneth Clark's *Civilisation*.

To my knowledge, only one organization is building an archive which recognizes the medium as a popular form, and that, perhaps ironically, is the British Film Institute. The BFI has a Film and Video Library which can provide, on loan, the entire *Blackmail* and *Boys From the Blackstuff* sequence; seminal episodes of *Z-Cars* from the early 1960s; likewise for *Coronation Street* and *Doctor Who*; as well as top-class TV drama, like the BBC plays *The Imitation Game* and *Likening Hitler*; and a programme as apparently rare as a Swiss TV Channel 4 co-production about Jean-Luc Godard's film *Passion* in the making. Hire charges for such programmes range from £7.50 to around £15. The BFI's education department is committed to the study of television as television, in schools as much as in higher education, and is more aware than most of the difficulties facing teachers with similar ideas.

In an ideal world, the BFI library might be funded by the highly profitable ITCA members to expand into a British TV Archive with the same all-inclusive acquisitions policy of the British Library.

In 1985, it is impossible to disagree with Paul Coueslant of LWT, that even the smallest steps towards improving access to television programmes are better than none at all. The government's impending reform of the 1956 Copyright Act, vis-a-vis magnetic recording media, could sweep away certain legal obstructions and render obsolete the mish-mash of licensing schemes. One can only hope the special interests of educational users are being given, at least as vigorous consideration as those of the publishers and the general consumer.

'We are to some extent in show business - the business of giving entertainment and pleasure to lots of people. Now some would say perhaps that's our only function and I wouldn't agree

Six months after taking up the post of programme director at the National Film Theatre, Sheila Whitaker is firmly ensconced in her box-like office on London's cultural South Bank and ready to talk about plans for the NFT which she regards as "educational with a small e".

A wall lined with film books in front of her and another with posters from Tyneside Cinema behind, this is a woman who is committed to combining the intellectual and the visual in her programming policy. She describes her role as placing films in a context which is "social, cultural and political", and the means of getting that across as through a clear identity (which can emerge visually through brochures and posters) and coherence (about what you're trying to do). "If that coherence comes across, people begin to respond to it."

The evidence of her past success is the Tyneside Cinema in Newcastle, which as controller for seven years, she turned into one of the British Film Institute's most successful regional film theatres. At a time when cinema attendances across the country have been in decline, Tyneside's figures this year are 18 per cent up on last year, which was 16 per cent up on the one before.

So how will her vision of coherence affect the NFT? Already there are indications of this in the current schedule, for example, this month's season of "National Fictions". Born out of BFI Education's 1983 Summer School on the Second World War, it is being supported by a discussion on film representations of the war and a book of papers from the summer school. In future, each summer school will be followed up by a similar season at the NFT.

Next month there will be a season on Wales. Alongside it will run events put on by the Welsh Tourist Board, with Welsh music in the foyer and a day conference on representations of the Welsh to be organized by SEFT, the Society for Education in Film and Television.

Increasing collaboration with other bodies like BFI Education and SEFT will be essential to the financing and work force required to put across this knowledge about film to all the different age groups.

At the children's level, Sheila Whitaker hopes to appeal to a much wider age range. The Junior NFT has traditionally attracted 12 to 16-year-olds with its children's classics and activities. She would also like to establish a clearer identity for them and to increase the activities which have been very successful in the past but have recently been curtailed by a lack of funds. Given more funds, she will introduce weekend animation workshops in the course of the next year.

The teaching of film making is not, in her view, a part of the NFT's task, but it contributes to the greater understanding of film theory and criticism which is.

For older children, an early evening programme to run on Fridays will



Coherence and identity

A new programme director, a new style for the National Film Theatre - Sheila Whitaker talks to Gillian Macdonald about her educational plans

provide an opportunity to catch up on the key classics and build a solid base for learning about film.

Plans are to work more closely with schools and universities. Teachers at either level, she hopes, will pick up the phone or write to her and suggest screenings and events that she might arrange. Local schools might like to attend special weekday matinees or colleges putting on film courses might want the NFT to screen key films that would benefit from the large screen and acoustics at the film theatre. This is one way in which she sees the NFT fulfilling its function as local cinema to the surrounding London area.

Evening classes, for adults are another prospect. BFI Education already runs certificate courses in film studies with the University of London, but the NFT's classes would be unaffiliated and aimed at a general audience. "These could tie in with an evening's film or, more positively, be a term's course around the NFT season."

All these schemes sound impressive. But if they also sound extremely ambitious - run alongside a general programme of 2,000 films a year and on a limited budget - they are accompanied by a firm note of realism: "Everything comes down to time and money" or "It is problems of administration and control that sometimes crash the best ideas on the head."

These problems will in the end dictate how much she can fulfil her aims. "I would like to think I'm not autocratic, and that perhaps I will have my mind changed... but generally, at the end of the day, it can only work if one person is doing the administration." This was said of her relations with BFI Education in the running of Junior NFT, but it clearly underlies her

wholehearted commitment to her job. BFI Education welcomes her appointment at the NFT. They have, she says, always given her strong support - for example, when she advocated the appointment of a media adviser for Newcastle and requested an education officer at the cinema. They will probably do the same if, as she suspects, in the longer term she finds it necessary to have an education officer at the NFT. Whether the BFI

will come up with funding on the doorstep of its own Education Department is more dubious, but already her arguments for it are very strong. The Regional Film Theatres will look to her for support and a new understanding of their problems. A commitment to the regions is something the BFI was stressing this year in its application for government funding.

Having come from a thriving film

centre in Newcastle, Sheila Whitaker is strongly opposed to sending complete packages of films round the regions. It is, she says, "at worst, the dead hand of the centre; at best, there's still a touch of the centre about it." Instead, she would like relations to be on a one-to-one basis of exchange, where each regional film theatre has its own experts and, above all, its own regional identity. The more enlightened RFTs may rejoice at this attitude, but audiences in regions which are less fortunate in their local programmers could feel disappointed and left out in the cold.

The International London Film Festival appears to be the most sensitive issue regarding her new post. Although it is based at the NFT for three weeks each year, Sheila Whitaker's appointment as its administrator (with Derek Malcolm as supervisor) has only been confirmed for next year, with a big question mark over the future. Given her views on programming coherence and on having the final say, this must feel like a serious threat to her position as programme director. Consequently, it is something she feels unable to discuss, but, at least as regards next year's festival, she agrees that the new children's section requires a higher profile and would like to see foreign films introduced to it. It should, she says, be the high spot of what the NFT is doing all year round. And in keeping with this view, she admits she would like to see seminars around the films for adult audiences. Sheila Whitaker's job is an exciting if unenviable one, even just in terms of the volume of administrative work - witness the team of assistants beavering away in the outer office. But if she and her staff, given the outside support they need, can actually realize all the schemes she is proposing, and if she can get the necessary moral and financial backing from the BFI management, then the NFT promises to be less of a showcase and more of a national centre for film education. If they succeed in providing that intellectual underpinning to the film programme for 52 weeks of the year, it can only gain in what Sheila Whitaker calls coherence and identity.

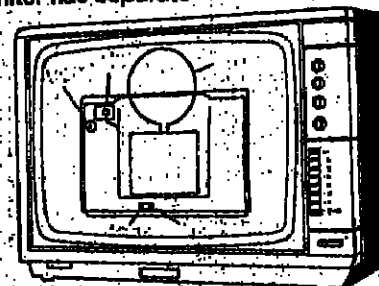
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Not so much a programme...

Roger Martin looks at an exercise in using practical video to explore social issues

Most schools now have access, of one kind or another, to a portable video camera; yet, says Vincent McGrath, "it is more likely to be used on a school journey than, say, as part of a Media Studies programme". This, he feels, is a waste of a powerful learning medium.

Now the Media Resources Officer at Sherbrook Teachers' Centre, from 1982 to 1984 Vincent McGrath undertook a Research Fellowship financed jointly by the British Film Institute Broadcasting Research Unit, ILEA and Sony, to investigate ways in which video could be used in primary schools.

For the two years of his fellowship, Vincent McGrath was based at Beaufort House School, Fulham. Two of the programmes made during this time are about the attempts of a class of 25 10-year-olds to tackle the problems of name calling (in particular racist name calling) and sex roles. In both cases the pupils retained control over the work, deciding on the content and the form it took.

Boys and Girls or Girls and Boys, the pupils' critique of sex roles, was a highly praised entry to the 1984 "Let's Make a Film Festival". Right from the start it was decided that this particular tape would be submitted.

This immediately imposed a time constraint upon the class, as entries were prohibited from being longer than 10 minutes. As it turned out, this proved to be a useful discipline, forcing the pupils to consider economy of expression while retaining coherence.

The making of the tape (as was always the case) included substantial discussion about what boys and girls thought about each other. Vincent McGrath says that this brought to the surface some very entrenched positions; he cites one boy who, with an air of desperation, said that being a girl was the worst possible thing he could think of.

From the class discussion, the pupils worked in small groups, devising a scenario that would examine the question: what would happen if a father lost his job and had to look after the home, while the mother went out to work? This formed the basis of one of the three sequences which eventually constituted the final programme.

Boys and Girls or Girls and Boys is an interesting mixture of formal, straight-forward, role-reversal: three boys walk on and adopt a "James Bond" style posture, aiming an imaginary gun at the camera, while two girls, standing in the foreground of the frame, make sexist comments about the boys' appearance, ending with the "punchline": "Boys, do you know that girls have to put up with that every day? How would you like it?"

Visually, it is an effective sequence. As with many sequences from both of the programmes, scenarios are performed that would be less effective if enacted in the open space of a classroom, encapsulated, as they are, by

the frame and articulated through a given choice of shots and camera movements, they have some force. The second sequence, called the *Reilly family*, began as an improvisation around the idea of a father having to take over the running of the home. It is distinctly television, it is not simply a video of a rehearsed "play"; it is the children have come up with shrewd solutions to formal problems. One was the problem of time, already referred to, and the other was the problem inherent in a group of children improvising dialogue: nobody could be heard. The children's solution was to mime the scene while an on-camera narrator, a girl, provided a commentary. Again, it works: it looks interesting and has a clear point of view.

It could be argued, with some justification, that "the children's point of view" is not an entirely satisfactory one, as the scene does tend to reproduce stereotypes (the dad takes over the running of breakfast; chicken ensues), but we are talking about 10-year-olds and, in any case, one distinct advantage with video, is that the finished programme can be used for generating further discussion and work. In this sense a programme like *Boys and Girls or Girls and Boys* is not a discrete artefact, produced, consumed and discarded, but is part of an ongoing process of enquiry.

The third sequence consists of a series of interviews with boys about their views concerning the role of the father in the family ("he should go out to work and go down to the pub"), and a group discussion (chaired by a girl) which included a half-way successful attempt on the part of a boy to change a nappy (using a doll) - "I say 'half-way' as he forgot to take the babies' clothes off first."

Vincent McGrath believes that constructive use of the video camera can both help very young children to develop television literacy and promote active learning. Because so many skills are utilized in the making of a programme, participation can lead to enhanced self-confidence and oral ability. And all the time, of course, the children are learning something more about the way television constructs meaning, not simply by emulating what the professionals do, but by responding to particular problems with their own solutions.

The evidence of these programmes is that they also offer children a new opportunity to develop their ideas and to make statements about important issues in their own lives.

Name Calling is, similarly, a mixture of formal. The programme did not set out to be specifically about racism, the project was an exploration of all the children's experience of name calling. As Vincent McGrath says, "consequently it could be argued that the tape confuses two issues, namely the general name calling that all children indulge in ('monkey', 'big ears', 'fat face') and the more specific name calling that is of a racist nature". However, the most moving and forceful moments in the programme come when black and coloured children speak about their experiences of racist language.

"One day I was walking down the road and a boy told me to go back to my own country, and I said to him that I've got no country to go to and I said 'do you tell me to go back to my own country?' I was born here, I'm Irish."

Q: Do you reckon that we should do more video in school?

A: Yes, I do, because it teaches you more about what you see than what you do in school.

Q: Instead of doing writing and doing work, do you think video's better for us than, er, than work?

A: No! You need both.

EXTRA

Illusions of movement

Sheila Mackay talks to
Jessica Langford
about the value of animation



Animation is one of the most creative, exciting and simple ways of making film, and, as young people in workshops discover to their delight, you don't have to be a Disney to make an animation film," says Jessica Langford, who founded Scotland's only Animation Workshop in 1981. "The enthusiasm and spontaneity shown by young people in response to the anything-can-happen magic of animation is enormously rewarding."

In addition to running animation workshops and in-service courses for teachers and youth and community workers, Jessica Langford is currently planning a film, with Edinburgh's Multicultural Centre, which embraces British Film Year, the International Year of Animation and United Nations Year of Youth. She is one of a dozen animators from countries all over the world who are celebrating two of the "years" by making a film on the theme of peace. The individual films will be edited together and shown as a whole at international film events.

Jessica Langford came to Scotland in 1981 and arranged to meet the staff of Film Workshop Trust, which was established in 1977 to provide youth and community groups with training and access to equipment in the media of photography, slide-tape, film animation and video. With FWT's support and blessing, but no capital to speak of, she embarked on a two-year uphill struggle to establish an animation workshop in a space provided by Theatre Workshop Edinburgh.

"Side is now a full-time member of FWT's staff, and the Animation Workshop is well established, with funding from the Scottish Film Council and Lothian Region, and occasional backing from other sources for special projects. It offers daily access to facilities to independent non-commercial film makers, weekly production courses for adults and young people and a wide range of projects to schools and youth and community centres."

Asked for a basic definition of animation, Jessica Langford replies that it is "the art of creating an illusion of movement on film". The production process is an ideal educational medium involving many simple techniques and skills. Overhead costs are small, and most schools and community groups have, or have access through resource centres to, the basic technical equipment required to make an animation film - a camera, tripod, lights or lightbox.

Conventional drawing comes into making a film but Jessica also encourages film makers to experiment with animating everyday objects like leaves, feathers, glass beads, sand and silhouettes on a lightbox to discover interesting images to express their ideas most effectively.

"Animation is all about timing, expressing an idea or feeling through movement and speed. The way in which a character moves conveys how it is feeling - sad or happy? how old? how big? and so on."

"Working on a film teaches children to be sensitive, to observe detail, and to concentrate. It is marvellous how young people will concentrate if they are excited and interested in a process to which everyone can contribute at

different levels. That includes writing the story, drawing up the storyboard, preparing the artwork, setting up the equipment, calculating the simple mathematics of animating the artwork, filming, devising a soundtrack to synchronize with the images that have been developed, and, of course, seeing the film they have made for the first time."

In addition to the more obvious educational aspects of animation and its value in developing creativity, Jessica Langford and other enthusiasts, subject are currently being tried out in something like 100 secondary schools and colleges throughout Scotland and I very much hope that funding will become available to add a 10th module - animation - in the course of this year."

The real importance of Jessica Langford's work to date has been in the lower reaches of secondary and the upper reaches of primary schools. Animation's qualities of cost-effectiveness and flexibility, added to its immediate appeal and creative and educational potential for this age group, place it in line with recommendations contained in the Scottish Education Department's forthcoming report on 10 to 14-year-olds.

But another place where animation could have great impact is the 16 to 18-year-old Action Plan, currently being tested; in art, for example, where youngsters are quickly turned off the subject if they feel they can't draw, and in English, if they feel they can't write. Animation does not demand a high level of skill in art or English or in technical ability, yet it provides a perfect touchstone for creativity.

As Eddie Dick points out, "Jessica is an underfunded, one-woman show". But he hopes that as realistic funding becomes available, some of Scotland's 250 freelance film makers will learn animation skills in courses like her in-service workshops.

So far, most of Jessica's work in schools has been with primary classes in Lothian Region, though she travels as far north as Inverness and south to London by special invitation. The content of the films she has made with

including Eddie Dick, the Scottish Film Council's Media Development Officer, emphasize its potential in encouraging more media-conscious audiences. They argue that offering young people the opportunity to be involved in the process of production how? why? by whom? and for whom? "Animation is a strict discipline which teaches the importance of selection and the clear and concise expression of ideas," says Jessica. "It also introduces young people to film language and encourages consciousness of how this and other media work."

Eddie Dick sees animation as an exciting tool in the future development of media studies: "Nine modules in this

1985 Year of Animation

the answer immediately he or she will know where to go. At this modest level, Film and Video Officers can provide information and contacts. Can I get hold of *Boys from the Blackstuff*? Are there teaching materials on film or television programmes? Is there someone to run an animation course at my school?"

More ambitiously, there exists an opportunity to forge active collaborations between schools, cinemas and production workshops. For example, when one school's department discovered a space existed within a Mode 3 component of an English A level which allowed for the introduction of a Film Studies course, they were able to approach us for advice. Together we worked out a one-year course around which three schools formed a consortium.

The New Cinema, one of our funded venues, was keen on hosting the course, and we brought along people such as Trevor Griffiths and Bill Douglas to talk about their work. So, film studies in a real cinema and a sprinkling of celebrities resulted in an exhilarating experience for us and the kids. The film studies workshops, production projects and education activity. Their work covers the whole spectrum of production, distribution, exhibition and education: community video to regional television. They will be in contact with scores of people in their area working in film, video or television. Their address book alone is an invaluable resource.

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So far, most of Jessica's work in schools has been with primary classes in Lothian Region, though she travels as far north as Inverness and south to London by special invitation. The content of the films she has made with

children varies enormously, from surreal fantasies illustrating pieces of music, to satirical comments on documentaries on contemporary issues which a group feels strongly about.

Sometimes the subject of a film is linked to a curriculum subject - *Kaleidoscope*, for example, was linked to environmental studies, and another film was produced as part of a mathematics course by animating shapes and matches. What Jessica calls the Animation Basics workshops are also effective in developing social skills and creativity in both physically and mentally handicapped children and adults. One of the most recently made, *Animation Workshop films is The Mystery of the Missing Mouse*, which is the work of 20 trainees at Edinburgh's Longstone Adult Training Centre.

A new and enjoyable departure for the Animation Workshop has been the use of several of its animators as fillers before the main film release in a local cinema. Film Workshop Trust has made a documentary video about the Animation Workshop which is available, in addition to a selection of the animated films, on hire to individuals or groups who want to know more. Jessica Langford is also working on a book called *Animation Basics*, in preparation for the demand which almost certainly lies just round the corner.

For further information about the Animation Workshop, contact Film Workshop Trust, 17 Great King Street, Edinburgh EH3 6QW (tel: 031-556 2078).

Community projects

The Albany Empire, situated in the not so soft underbelly of South East London, houses a range of community projects, including Albany Video. The video project started over 10 years ago as a facility available to local people on an open-access basis.

The idea was that playgroups or tenants' associations could work with staff to make tapes which would communicate their views to those with social and political responsibilities in the area. While lack of funds and the level of technology available at the time ensured that productions remained simple, the potential was there for a new directness and authenticity.

Ordinary people were, for the first time, beginning to control a medium which had previously been in the hands of a few select professionals. It wasn't necessarily art, but it was a new cultural activity which was socially relevant and sometimes had a keen cutting edge.

Gradually the project developed and changed. Albany Video can now claim to be a professional organization which exists outside the mainstream because it is culturally, not commercially, orientated. Funded by Channel 4, the GLC and Greater London Arts, it has both amateur and professional production equipment. It is also beginning to develop a distribution library, not only for its own tapes but also for those from other grant-aided film/video workshops which have developed across the country.

What then of their tapes? Are they relevant to education? Well, they don't match the usual standards or the conventions of broadcasting. Nor are they intended to be, in the usual sense of the term, educational resources. Instead, by raising issues about the everyday world knowledge which influences us all, they relate to such broadly defined areas as health, multi-racial and media education. More

over, the issues they raise about race, unemployment or feminism are seen from the perspectives of, or are presented by, the people they affect most.

Among the selection I saw, three were presented by young peoples' theatre groups. *Another Stage* shows young people enacting scenes from their everyday lives at school, at work or being unemployed. They come together in the evening for a drama workshop in which they each perform a solo spot expressing their attitudes towards work. The students' performances and their production complement each other in a naturalistic style which is both fluent and convincing.

In 44, a statistic about teenage pregnancy, is brought to life by members of Nottingham Youth Theatre. It's not presented as a linear narrative but uses a series of sequential variations to question typical attitudes towards teenage pregnancy. (It would be useful material to help start a crucial discussion.) The production is as inventive as the performances are youthful, with the result that it comes over as an authentic representation of the young people themselves. And this, not slick professionalism, gives it strength.

Deaf Terrorists vs The Hearing World silently signs its way through a plot to blow up a telephone exchange. Although the production sometimes has to struggle to be convincing, it's a worthy attempt at a piece of creative drama by an all-deaf group.

All the programmes are useful, varied examples of young peoples' drama work. They may also serve as stimuli for practical work in media education. The subject content and inventive use of simple locations are exactly what young people need to understand in order to make their work effective.

Jim Hornsby

Further information from: Albany Video Distribution, Douglas Way, London SE8 (tel: 01-492 6322).

Jim Hornsby is an independent video producer and editor, 174 Kingsland Road, London E2 8AA.

Regional support

Wanting to start courses on the media? Malcolm Allen suggests how regional film officers might help

Wanting to run a course on television or the media? Interested in having film or video made? Production courses? Wanting a good film to encourage class discussion on unemployment?

The world of film, video and television has begun to enter the life of schools and colleges; slowly perhaps, given its preponderance in the rest of our lives, but surely. This movement may be fuelled by the initiative of James Learmonth, FIM, in setting up regional officers including education officers (see page 30). But dozens of time-consuming problems appear when attempting worthwhile work in film and television. A lot of them arise from a simple lack of information.

This is the point at which a regional Film and Video Officer can help. Regional Arts Associations are organizations which encourage and promote and fund arts activities in the regions; almost all of them employ Film and Video Officers who are responsible for production workshops, production projects and education activity. Their work covers the whole spectrum of production, distribution, exhibition and education: community video to regional television. They will be in contact with scores of people in their area working in film, video or television. Their address book alone is an invaluable resource.

They will also be in touch with an array of national organizations, from the British Film Institute to Channel 4 to the Women's Film and Television Network. Scores of regional contacts become hundreds nationally. If you Film and Video Officer doesn't have

the answer immediately he or she will know where to go.

At this modest level, Film and Video Officers can provide information and contacts. Can I get hold of *Boys from the Blackstuff*? Are there teaching materials on film or television programmes? Is there someone to run an animation course at my school?

More ambitiously, there exists an opportunity to forge active collaborations between schools, cinemas and production workshops. For example, when one school's department discovered a space existed within a Mode 3 component of an English A level which allowed for the introduction of a Film Studies course, they were able to approach us for advice. Together we worked out a one-year course around which three schools formed a consortium.

The New Cinema, one of our funded venues, was keen on hosting the course, and we brought along people such as Trevor Griffiths and Bill Douglas to talk about their work. So, film studies in a real cinema and a sprinkling of celebrities resulted in an exhilarating experience for us and the kids. The film studies workshops, production projects and education activity. Their work covers the whole spectrum of production, distribution, exhibition and education: community video to regional television. They will be in contact with scores of people in their area working in film, video or television. Their address book alone is an invaluable resource.

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National Conference and Bracknell's Video Festival. It is now widely shown in schools and youth clubs and is distributed nationally by Albany Video, London (see adjacent article).

The same video maker was invited for a 10-week residency at another college. He worked with a group of students who chose video as an option and they produced a "pop video" based on a song written by one of the group. The result is now part of a package promoted by Nottingham Video Project and Derby Video Project. This is a far cry from the temporary enrichment with video technology which gripped educational institutions about 12 years ago, leading to frenzied purchase of equipment which is now collecting dust in stockpiles throughout the country. No one knew what to do with it. Exploiting those national connections has enhanced the project enormously and increased the ambition and involvement of the kids.

Film, video and television in education offer radical challenges to existing curriculum, but they require an alliance of educationalists, exhibitors, film and video makers and writers. Film and Video Officers can help in bringing that about.

On another occasion the schoolchildren of Nottingham Youth Theatre wanted to make a video. They were introduced to a regional video maker who worked with them over several weeks on a project to which we awarded £2,000 from our production fund. The result was *I'm 44*, a 20-minute tape on pregnancy among 16-year-old girls, which won first prize at a national video competition and was enthusiastically received at a BFI

For further information about Regional Arts Associations and their film, video and television work, contact Council of Regional Arts Associations, 2nd Floor, 66-72 St John's Road, Clapham Junction, London SW11 1PT (tel: 01-225 5472).

Malcolm Allen has been Film and Video Officer for East Midlands Arts for the past five years. He is leaving to become a freelance film/TV producer.

Video Software
pages appear
every 3rd
Friday of
the month

VIDEO
REVIEWS

Mixing
oil and water

Shell Better Britain Campaign
Water and Wetlands, 22 minutes
Benwell, 13 minutes

Available, free of charge, from the Campaign Administrator, Shell Better Britain Campaign, Nature Conservation Council, Northminster House, Peterborough PE1 1UA (also from the offices of Scottish Conservation Projects, BYCV and the Civic Trust).

I do not doubt the sincerity of those oil company employees who run conservation schemes; the problem is that the left hand may not always be aware of the activities of the right (and may even be kept intentionally in ignorance).

How should we react to oil company sponsorship of conservation? Dismiss it as a public relations exercise or, at a time when wildlife is seriously threatened, welcome any small advance? Some of our most important conservation bodies incline toward the latter view and three (the Nature Conservancy Council, the Civic Trust and the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers) are involved in the Shell Better Britain Campaign. Indeed, after more than a decade of involvement and observation, Philip Oswald of the NCC considers that apart from the obvious advantages to donor and recipient, conservation sponsorship has an indirect influence on attitudes within a company.

ing the work being done on a marvelous swampy area, already recognized as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, at Moor Park in Surrey. The Surrey Trust for Nature Conservation and BTCV are labouring to keep the area both open and wet, by thinning out reeds and young alders. A more open habitat should attract smaller marsh birds and provide a place for typical wetland plants such as reedswort.

Shell sponsorship has provided funds for a wooden boardwalk to allow access for visitors and workers into the marshy places. Working myself on a grade one nature reserve, whose waters are opaque all summer with algal blue, I envy these Surrey volunteers their pure water and rich wildlife.

The restoration of a man-made lake is in progress at Lrose Valley in Kent, where the local scout troop search for a place to camp ended with their buying a 40-acre valley site. As well as attacking the problems for the silted-up and leaking lake with its derelict weirs and sluice, volunteer groups are hard at work repairing footpaths, rebuilding walls and planting trees. It is an ambitious project and it was difficult to get under way in the early days, but now results can be seen, there is no shortage of volunteers.

Benwell is an urban project taking place in Newcastle-upon-Tyne. The City Council and BTCV are collaborating with local residents to transform five acres of land, left bare by the demolition of slum housing, into Benwell Nature Park. A large pond has been made, grass sown and trees and shrubs planted. There are already many visitors who come both to look and to work. The local primary school overlooks the site and teachers and children regularly take part in the project.

I would have welcomed more in these videos about the places themselves and the field-work, and fewer awkward speeches to camera. Unseasoned broadcasters are almost always at their best explaining their work as they do it: the marvelous ladies rebuilding a dry stone wall on the Kent site was a fine example. Such glimpses of work in progress and the evidence of sustained volunteer support makes heartening viewing.

Francesca Greenoak

EXTRA
BITS & PIECES

Seamus Hegarty looks at a new type of video pack for children with learning difficulties

Bits and Pieces
Colours
In, On and Under
Porterpack Learning Materials
£50 each

Available from Porterpacks, 7 Horsefair Green, Stony Stratford, Milton Keynes MK11 1JW.

Children with learning difficulties benefit in a particular way from the use of audio-visual resources in their teaching. Basic concepts often have to be gone over again and again and skills have to be practised repeatedly before they are mastered. The obvious difficulty - and a major reason why teaching this group is so challenging - is the boredom that such repetition can bring about.

Parents and teachers have to be endlessly inventive in finding new ways of presenting the same concepts and providing practice in basic skills. This is where audio-visual resources can score. The same content can be presented in different ways - animation, film/video of real life, worksheets, games, music and so forth. As well as avoiding boredom and, thereby, enhancing motivation, this multiplicity of presentation can help children to a fuller grasp of concepts and enable them to generalize concepts and skills more easily.

Porterpacks are built around this notion of multiple presentation of basic topics. The packs comprise a 15-minute video programme, which includes direct teaching, animation, illustrated stories, music and scenes from real life; colour photographs taken from the video programme; worksheets and games; and, in two packs only, an audio tape of excerpts from the video soundtrack.

The Flour Advisory Bureau have recently produced a video about nutrition for 9 to 13-year-olds, entitled *You Are What You Eat*. This video is comparable to the "curate's egg" - it is good in parts. It is intended as an audio-visual aid to raise the awareness of the importance of nutritional choice and health to children, a commendable aim which, unfortunately, is not fully realized.

A "snappy", well-presented introduction by Johnny Ball, immediately held the attention of a group of 12-year-olds. A clear and concise description of energy requirements, body composition and the need for food followed.

The video then switched from clear

from the video soundtrack. The three packs available to date confine themselves to work on concepts. (Packs in preparation, which include Shopping, Writing and Money, may extend into skills.) *Bits and Pieces* deals with basic parts of the body and how we use them. *Colours* has to do with naming, sorting and using the colours red, blue, yellow and green. *In, On, and Under* covers the use of these prepositions.

The target audience of the pack is not specified other than as "children with learning difficulties". Their prime use would appear to be with junior age children with moderate learning difficulties. I have found that they also work well with normal children of pre-school and reception-class age.

The most striking feature of the video components in use is their success in engaging children's attention. The necessary repetition is achieved within a framework of structured variety. Take *Colours*, for instance. First, different coloured objects are named. Then, a young actor - a most engaging character - sorts objects by colour. Next, he paints a picture using the same colours. This is followed by a colour song and, finally, a collection of everyday objects which have a pronounced colour.

An unusual feature of the programmes is the provision of "gaps" or spaces on the tapes where users can add their own comments. Presumably, this is intended as an opportunity for the teacher to individualize the material and, in the words of the users' notes, "make viewing an active learning situation".

This is certainly an interesting departure and enables users to explore

the teaching/learning possibilities of video as a medium. Too often video is used as a sort of glorified slide show - without the flexibility or pedagogic precision of well-constructed slide sequences - and its specific capacity to aid learning is not realized.

That said, however, it is to be regretted that the users notes offer no guidance or suggestions on how to utilize this opportunity. The notes are as skimpy on this as they are in most other respects, and it is likely that teachers will make less than full use of this interesting innovation.

The packs as presented here have a number of weaknesses. Some such as the poor packaging could be easily rectified. Others are more substantial and would entail re-shooting parts of the video material. The most glaring example is when the basic colours are being introduced and the four "green" objects vary in colour from dark green to a light grey-green. Other shots from the videos, some of them repeated in the photographs, are likely to be ambiguous if not confusing for the target group because of poor positioning and colour blocking.

In summary then, these packs can be given a cautious welcome. Hardly the "new concept" in the education of children with learning difficulties that the publicity blurb claims, but certainly an additional resource for the teaching of junior age children with moderate learning difficulties. There are weaknesses as outlined above. These are all the more notable in view of the price which is pitched at a level where one would expect a more finished product. These reservations aside, the materials are well conceived and should certainly engage the target group in a constructive way.

educational messages to a section about food, and this is when it became difficult to identify the author's intentions. The nutritional value of the "information" was dubious and not in line with the current food and health guidelines as identified in the recent James report. This was a pity since the animated section on digestion and the historical references to the varying problems of malnutrition were extremely good and proved most interesting to the group of young viewers. However, this did not make up for the lack of consideration of multi-ethnic eating patterns or the introduction of abstract notions of food distribution and economic issues.

The difficulty of putting such complex information over to children of middle school age is well recognized. Younger children respond well to clear and concise information which they are able to relate to their own experience or, in this case, their own eating habits. This aim was not fully realized in this video.

Lesley Smith

Curate's
egg



Life on the campus

University of Sussex Video
VHS, Betamax or U-matic
Made by Document Films
Available on free loan from The Admissions Officer, Arts D, University of Sussex, Falmer, Brighton BN1.

When Richard Attenborough is the executive producer of a video, it makes a claim to be taken seriously. Indeed, one benefit of his being Pro-Chancellor of the University of Sussex should be to bring about such initiatives, although we shouldn't expect another *Gandhi* extolling the virtues of a new university near the south coast of England.

From a potential cast of 1,600 residents on campus, a personable bunch has been chosen for its first media break. Alas, few of them will be able to capitalize on this debut for an entry into show-biz as voices are seldom identified with people. The gaggle of aerobic dancers will stand little chance of getting into the next *Buffy Berkeley* pastiche, but we saw one black girl

working out who was real star material. Worse than not hearing the students' opinions about Sussex coming out of real faces is not being told who the academic staff are. Perhaps Sussex wants to attract only those sixth-formers who can instantly recognize Jonathan Miller, but other disliking staff are seen teaching who are less well known by public appearances. I identified the Professor of the Sex Life of Goldfish, RRS, but I doubt if his face is known in schools throughout the land. Nor is there any back-up written material to help.

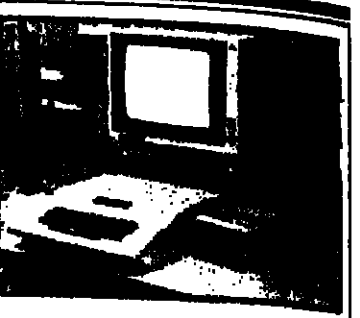
The result is an impressionistic picture of the campus, set between the South Downs and the sea, it is attractive to watch and witty cut to its own internal music, to the extent that it could have a supplementary role illustrating the craft of film making. Sussex emerges as a 'friendly' place, where tutors smile tolerantly at attempts at self-expression and organize week-ends in Paris to look at the art of it looks a bit like Milton Keynes, well

you've only got one year on campus, then you can get lodgings in naughty old Brighton, not that we saw much of that apart from a graduation ceremony.

The university has lots of new equipment, a multi-gym, two xiphophones, you look for a job before you leave, although we didn't hear from anyone who had found one, nor learn whether the milk-round was being provided, but no food seemed to be provided. You have to want to fend for yourself, as one of the unseen voices commented. If this appealed, a candidate would then have to go to the prospectus to find out what courses were offered and who taught them.

More videos like this would be a great help to schools in illustrating the varying lifestyles of our universities and colleges, and is only a logical extension of using them to choose homes and holidays.

Judith Mirzoeff



Type and
talk

Micros in the Wider Curriculum
Talking Programs
Available on free loan from MEP Regional Centres. Copyright free, but some centres may charge for postage.

Many special schools and units have either recently acquired their first computer, or else are waiting to see firm evidence of benefits to pupils before spending over £1,000 on a basic system with inevitable peripherals. The conceptual gap between such schools and the handful of enthusiasts who are involved in writing and developing software should not be underestimated, and these tapes attempt to make the latest developments more widely accessible.

Both tapes are concerned with moderate rather than severe learning difficulties, and fall somewhere between in-service training and journalism - teachers will not necessarily be able to do any more with computers as a result of watching them, but they may, as I did, feel that they are better informed.

Micros in the Wider Curriculum is the more convincing of the two because all of the programs are (sometimes rather fleetingly) shown in use as part of normal school work. It runs for 26 minutes, is supported by useful notes, and would make a good basis for a staff meeting.

The programs provide practical examples of the use of computers to support and extend the curriculum, and include work on map-reading, practical science, mathematics, social studies and music. "The Lock", a simple simulation which complements a visit to a local canal, is one of the most successful sequences as it is shown in sufficient detail to provide a clear impression of the impact of the program on the pupils' thinking. Some of the other programs, particularly those concerned with mathematics, would have benefited from similarly extensive treatment. Nevertheless, there is clear evidence throughout the tapes of computers contributing to pupils' self-confidence and intellectual development, and it may well help to dispel some basic misconceptions.

Talking Programs, a survey of the available varieties of computerized speech, is concerned with work in progress and may, therefore, have less immediate practical applications. Its most impressive feature is a "work station" in which a BBC system, linked to a Perkins braille and a Voice "Type 'n' Talk" speech synthesizer, operates as a talking wordprocessor and allows Darren, who has very little sight, to attend a normal school.

The synthesizer reads back what Darren has written before it is printed out and gives him some of the information and control available to a sighted person. However, the tape shows only glimpses of the equipment in use, so that it is not possible to form a clear idea of its effect on the quality of Darren's work. This is unfortunate, as the poor quality of speech itself renders it virtually useless outside this highly specialized context.

There are two further versions of computerized speech, respectively termed "synchronized" and "digital". The former, recorded by the teacher on a tape and played back at appropriate points in the program, is the only one of the three to retain the characteristics of the human voice, although the words can only be used exactly as recorded.

"Digital" speech, produced via a wordshop, has a vocabulary restricted to 200 words, which can be assembled in any order. The voice, however, is flat, dreary and somewhat robotic, and will have to be improved beyond all measure if it is to become acceptable for use in schools.

John Bald

PRIMARY EDUCATION continued

BRENT
LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL
CINNAMON BROW C R.C. JUNIOR SCHOOL
Parth Close, Warrington, Cheshire WA2 0BP
Tel: Warrington 891108 (Group 5)
RE-ADVERTISEMENT
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced primary teachers with an innovative and sound philosophy for this post from 1 September 1985.
Applicants should be prepared to discuss their views on the curriculum and the role of the school with the Headteacher.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Director of Education to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985.
Education Offices, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (34456) 110092

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
MILTON KEYNES AREA
CIVIC TRUST JUNIOR SCHOOL
County First School
The Front Road, Bletchley, Milton Keynes MK1 2ES
Required from the beginning of the summer term 1985. A qualified teacher for a class of 6 to 8 year old pupils. Scale 1.
This is a temporary post to cover maternity leave.
Apply by letter to the Headteacher, giving full curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of three referees. (34451) 110082

CAMBRIDGESHIRE
(Equal Opportunity Employer)
HISTON JUNIOR SCHOOL
Histon Road, Histon, Cambridgeshire CB3 0JL
Required from 15th April 1985. A qualified teacher for a class of 6 to 8 year old pupils. Scale 1.
For further details and application forms, contact the Headteacher, Mrs. Desautels on 01-501-8010.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Director of Education to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985.
Education Offices, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (34451) 110082

MANCHESTER
CITY COUNCIL
SUPPLY TEACHERS
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers of infants for supply appointments in Primary Schools of the City of Manchester. Contact the Schools Section, City Council, Crown Square, Manchester M2 1WJ. Tel: 275 4185. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (34451) 110082

NEWHAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL
Hartley Avenue, London E6 6DT
Head Teacher: T. E. Rootley
Required April 1985. An experienced teacher for a lower junior class. London Allowance: £1,000.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Director of Education to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985.
Education Offices, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (34451) 110092

SHREWSBURY
SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL
39 Town Meads, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 1TN
Girls' Public Day School Trust
Required for September 1985. A qualified teacher of general subjects, including craft, for a class of seven year olds. Experience in music and ability to play the piano an advantage. Burnham Scale 1.
Please apply to the Headteacher, enclosing curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees. (33556) 110082

WALTHAM FOREST
ST JOSEPH'S R.C. JUNIOR SCHOOL
Vicarage Road, London E10 5JH
Required for April. A practising teacher for a class of lower juniors to cover for maternity leave. London Allowance.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Headteacher to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985. Ref: F47/1082 (33519) 110082

WILTSHIRE
Please see display advertisement on 110092 (340564) 110092

CHESHIRE
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
CINNAMON BROW C R.C. JUNIOR SCHOOL
Parth Close, Warrington, Cheshire WA2 0BP
Tel: Warrington 891108 (Group 5)
RE-ADVERTISEMENT
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced primary teachers with an innovative and sound philosophy for this post from 1 September 1985.
Applicants should be prepared to discuss their views on the curriculum and the role of the school with the Headteacher.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Director of Education to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985.
Education Offices, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (34456) 110092

NEWHAM
LONDON BOROUGH OF NEWHAM JUNIOR SCHOOL
CINNAMON BROW C R.C. JUNIOR SCHOOL
Parth Close, Warrington, Cheshire WA2 0BP
Tel: Warrington 891108 (Group 5)
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Education Offices, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD. An Equal Opportunity Employer. (34456) 110092

WALTHAM FOREST
ST JOSEPH'S R.C. JUNIOR SCHOOL
Vicarage Road, London E10 5JH
Required for April. A practising teacher for a class of lower juniors to cover for maternity leave. London Allowance.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Headteacher to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985. Ref: F47/1082 (33519) 110082

WILTSHIRE
Please see display advertisement on 110092 (340564) 110092

NORFOLK
PETERHOUSE MIDDLE SCHOOL
Maplestone Square, Gorleston, Norwich NR1 7EZ
N.O.R. 300 8 - 12 Mixed
Required for September 1985. Deputy Headteacher (Group 5).
Application forms and further details obtainable from the Director of Education, 22 Euston Road, London N.W.2. Tel: 020 7553 151. A receipt of a S.A.E. must be enclosed.
Closing Date: 1st March 1985. 120012 (34452)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Scale 1 Posts
BEDFORDSHIRE
NORTHAMPTON AREA
HAROLD PRIORY MIDDLE SCHOOL
The Green, Harrold, MK45 7DS
Headmaster Mr. R. Smith
Available for September 1985. A qualified teacher for a class of 13 Co-educational middle school, Numbers on roll 200. Required for the Spring Term 1985 only. A Temporary Teacher, Scale 1 of Boys PE Games and Geography, and further details from the Headmaster, s.a.e. (34452)

SECONDARY EDUCATION
Headships
BROMLEY
LONDON BOROUGH OF BROMLEY JUNIOR SCHOOL FOR GIRLS
Lander Road, Beckenham, Kent BR3 1QT
Required for September 1985. A qualified teacher for a class of 13 Co-educational middle school, Numbers on roll 200. Required for the Spring Term 1985 only. A Temporary Teacher, Scale 1 of Boys PE Games and Geography, and further details from the Headmaster, s.a.e. (34452)

DEVON
Please see display advertisement on page 55.

SHREWSBURY
SHREWSBURY HIGH SCHOOL
39 Town Meads, Shrewsbury, Shropshire SY1 1TN
Girls' Public Day School Trust
Required for September 1985. A qualified teacher of general subjects, including craft, for a class of seven year olds. Experience in music and ability to play the piano an advantage. Burnham Scale 1.
Please apply to the Headteacher, enclosing curriculum vitae and names and addresses of two referees. (33556) 110082

WALTHAM FOREST
ST JOSEPH'S R.C. JUNIOR SCHOOL
Vicarage Road, London E10 5JH
Required for April. A practising teacher for a class of lower juniors to cover for maternity leave. London Allowance.
Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Headteacher to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985. Ref: F47/1082 (33519) 110082

WILTSHIRE
Please see display advertisement on 110092 (340564) 110092

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Vicarage Road, London E10 5JH
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Application forms (a.s.e.) available from the Headteacher to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985. Ref: F47/1082 (33519) 110082

WILTSHIRE
Please see display advertisement on 110092 (340564) 110092

JUNIOR TEACHERS
Scale 1
Required September 1985
A number of vacancies for teachers on first appointments who have had junior teaching practice will be available in September 1985.
Application forms (see please) available from The Director of Education, quoting Reference FTA, to whom completed forms should be returned by 26th February 1985.
London Allowance: £1038.
Director of Education, Education Office, 379/383 High Street, Stratford, E15 4RD.
An Equal Opportunity Employer

SUPPLY TEACHERS
Required as soon as possible
to cover for a variety of long and short term absences. Must be experienced. Willingness to teach across the primary age range an advantage. Supply work in Secondary Schools also available.
SCALE 1 PLUS OUTER LONDON ALLOWANCE.
Application forms available from the Chief Education Officer, Municipal Offices, High Road, Leyton, E15 5QJ. (Send a.s.e.).
Ref. P201. 110092

Waltham Forest
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY
Employers are considered for their suitability for the post regardless of disability, sex, race and marital status.

WEST GLAMORGAN
County Council
SECONDARY HEADSHIP
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons for the following post, to commence in September 1985.
YSGOL GYFUN GWYR, Hoel Cae, Ty Newydd, Loughor, Swansea, SA4 2PW (MIXED) (103 on roll) (Age Range 11-16).
A Headteacher
Is required for this Group 9 Bilingual Comprehensive School. Most teaching will be through a medium of Welsh and applicants should be fluent in the Welsh language. (Post Ref. 1.14.85)
Application forms and further details for the above post are available from the Director of Education, Personnel Section, West Glamorgan County Council, County Hall, Swansea, SA1 3SN, upon receipt of a stamped addressed foolscap envelope.
The CLOSING DATE for receipt of applications is THURSDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY 1985.
John Beale
Director of Education 110093

SECONDARY HEADSHIPS continued

DERBYSHIRE

See Derbyshire Display page 33. 130010 (34702)

MERTON
LONDON BOROUGH OF
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
RICA 1855, 1856, 1857
Lake Road, Wimbledon,
Surrey. 1318 years
Age Range: 13-18 years
No. on Roll: 805
Required for September 1985 for this Girls' Head Teacher (1318)
Closing Date: 8th March 1985
Application forms and further details available from the Director of Education, Education House, 100, London Road, Morden, Surrey. 1318 50X. Please enclose stamped addressed envelope. 130010

STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF STOCKPORT
Required for the Summer Term 1985 or as soon as possible thereafter.
Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Headteacher at the following schools:
BRAMHALL HIGH SCHOOL
Seal Road, Bramhall, Stockport, Cheshire. 1318 50X
This is an 11-18 Mixed Comprehensive School, and the post has become vacant upon the retirement of the Headteacher, Mr. L. Hilditch. The number of pupils on roll in September 1984 was 1,749 of which 857 were in the sixth form.

STOCKPORT SCHOOL
Mile End Lane, Stockport, Cheshire. 1318 50X
This is an 11-18 Boys' Comprehensive School, and the post has become vacant upon the retirement of the Headteacher, Mr. D. Dean. The number of pupils on roll in September 1984 was 1,149 of which 88 were in the sixth form.
Application forms and further details available from the Director of Education, Metropolitan Borough of Stockport, Town Hall, Stockport, Cheshire. 1318 50X. Please enclose stamped addressed envelope. 130010

Deputy Headships Second Masters/ Mistresses

DEVON
Please see displayed advertisement on Page 55. 130012 (00087)

DORSET
Bournemouth School
POW GIRA
Castle Close, Bournemouth, Dorset. 1318 50X
This is an 11-18 Mixed Comprehensive School, and the post has become vacant upon the retirement of the Headteacher, Mr. L. Hilditch. The number of pupils on roll in September 1984 was 1,749 of which 857 were in the sixth form.
Application forms and further details available from the Director of Education, Metropolitan Borough of Stockport, Town Hall, Stockport, Cheshire. 1318 50X. Please enclose stamped addressed envelope. 130010

HEADSHIPS

- Hartcliffe School, Bishop Avenue, Hartcliffe, Bristol. BS13 0RL
- Merrywood Girls' School, Downton Road, Knowle, Bristol, BS14 10B.

Salary in accordance with Group II.
Vacancies from 1st September 1985.

Further details and application form, returnable by 8th March 1985, from Director of Education, PO Box 57, Avon House North, St James Barton, Bristol, BS99 7EB. (Please enclose a.s.e.)
Avon is an equal opportunities employer.

Avon
COUNTY COUNCIL
Education Department
(0308)

Cheshire
PENKETH COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
HEATH ROAD, PENKETH, WARRINGTON
TEL: PENKETH 2288. GROUP 12 SCHOOL
NUMBER ON ROLL 1436 (INCLUDING 134 6TH FORM)

Headteacher

Applications are invited for the Headship of this fully Comprehensive High School to take up the appointment in September 1985.

Candidates must be well qualified and experienced in the management and philosophy of comprehensive schools.

Application forms and further details available from and returnable to: District Education Officer, Education Department, Priestly House, Sankey Street, Warrington, Cheshire. Telephone: Warrington 51251 ext 332. (10750)

DORSET
County Council

DORSET
CASTLEFIELD SCHOOL
Queen's Avenue, Dorchester, Dorset. 1318 50X
Applications are invited for the post of Secondary Deputy Head Teacher at this mixed comprehensive school for 700 pupils aged 11-18. The vacancy arises as a result of the retirement of Mrs. J. Harcourt. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate the school's educational and administrative activities and to have overall responsibility for the school's performance. The post is a full-time position with a salary of £13,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, Castlefield School, Dorchester, Dorset. 1318 50X. (34801)

LEICESTERSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
An Equal Opportunity Employer
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
UPPERMARTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
London Road, Upper Marton, Leicestershire. 1318 50X
Group 8
Principal: Mr. D. Wright
Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Principal of this well-established mixed 11-18 secondary school. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate the school's educational and administrative activities and to have overall responsibility for the school's performance. The post is a full-time position with a salary of £13,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, Upper Marton Community College, London Road, Upper Marton, Leicestershire. 1318 50X. (34586)

LEICESTERSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
An Equal Opportunity Employer
VICE PRINCIPAL
BOSWORTH COLLEGE
Leicester Lane, Duffield, Leicestershire. 1318 50X
Group 13 Roll 1229
Principal: Mr. R. W. Phipps
Men and women are invited to apply for the post of Vice Principal at this mixed comprehensive school for 1,200 pupils aged 11-18. The vacancy arises as a result of the retirement of Mrs. J. Harcourt. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate the school's educational and administrative activities and to have overall responsibility for the school's performance. The post is a full-time position with a salary of £13,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, Bosworth College, Leicester Lane, Duffield, Leicestershire. 1318 50X. (34429)

Cheshire

HALTON DISTRICT

Head Teacher - 2 Posts

Required for September 1985, suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the following schools:-

1. Runcom - The Heath County Comprehensive (Group 11) 11-18 co-educational with approximately 1,220 pupils on roll.
2. Widnes-Bankfield County High (Group 10) 11-18 co-educational with approximately 711 pupils on roll. The school is designated a social priority school and the appropriate allowance is payable.

Further details and application forms for both posts available from and returnable to:- The District Education Officer, Grosvenor House, Shopping City, Runcom. Telephone: Runcom 713322 ext 240. Closing date: 4th March 1985 (1077)

CORNWALL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

There is a Removal Expenses Scheme for teacher taking up permanent appointments from out-side the County.

COMPREHENSIVE HEADSHIP

Camborne School, Cranberry Road, Camborne, Cornwall. TR14 7PJ. Group No. 12, No. On Roll 1368. Sixth Form Of 128.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for the Headship of the above school.

It is anticipated that there will be 1310 pupils on roll in September, 1985, including 140 in the Sixth Form.

The post will be available from 1st September, 1985, following retirement of the present Head.

Camborne is one of the three Comprehensive schools in the area taking part in the authority's T.V.E.I. pilot scheme.

Application form and further details, on receipt of SAE, from the Secretary for Education, (Schools Section), County Hall, Truro, Cornwall. TR1 3BA. Closing date 1st March, 1985.

Cornwall

SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL
FRINGE AREA LONDON ALLOWANCE £258 p.a. throughout the County.
Temporary housing may be available.
Generous relocation expenses in approved cases.

DEPUTY HEADSHIP

ST PETER'S AND MERROW GRANGE RC (AIDED) SCHOOL. (GROUP 10). (12-18) COMPREHENSIVE. N.O.R. 120 INC. 100 IN SIXTH FORM, APPROX. Horseshoe Lane, East, Guildford, GU1 2TN.

DEPUTY HEADTEACHER required from September 1985. Duties will include assisting Headmaster in day-to-day administration of school. Applications are invited from practising Catholics for this important position. Application form and further details from the Headteacher, (SAE please). Completed application forms should be returned not later than Monday, 4 March 1985. (1089)

SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

LEICESTERSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
An Equal Opportunity Employer
DEPUTY PRINCIPAL
UPPERMARTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE
London Road, Upper Marton, Leicestershire. 1318 50X
Group 8
Principal: Mr. D. Wright
Applications are invited for the post of Deputy Principal of this well-established mixed 11-18 secondary school. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate the school's educational and administrative activities and to have overall responsibility for the school's performance. The post is a full-time position with a salary of £13,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, Upper Marton Community College, London Road, Upper Marton, Leicestershire. 1318 50X. (34586)

LEICESTERSHIRE
COUNTY COUNCIL
An Equal Opportunity Employer
VICE PRINCIPAL
BOSWORTH COLLEGE
Leicester Lane, Duffield, Leicestershire. 1318 50X
Group 13 Roll 1229
Principal: Mr. R. W. Phipps
Men and women are invited to apply for the post of Vice Principal at this mixed comprehensive school for 1,200 pupils aged 11-18. The vacancy arises as a result of the retirement of Mrs. J. Harcourt. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate the school's educational and administrative activities and to have overall responsibility for the school's performance. The post is a full-time position with a salary of £13,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, Bosworth College, Leicester Lane, Duffield, Leicestershire. 1318 50X. (34429)

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Group 13 Roll 1229
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SURREY
COUNTY COUNCIL

SECONDARY DEPUTY HEADSHIPS continued

REDBRIDGE
LONDON BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE
TRINITY R.C. HIGH SCHOOL
Morrington Road, Woodside, Redbridge, Essex. 1318 50X
Tel: 01-504 9756
Head: P.C.D. Doherty, M.A., D.Phil.
Required for September 1985:
Applications are invited from practising Roman Catholics for the post of Deputy Head Teacher at this well-established mixed 11-18 Roman Catholic High School with 1,050 pupils on roll (100 in the 6th Form).
Applicants must have proven administrative ability and experience in the field of pastoral care and school administration. The successful candidate will be expected to co-ordinate the school's educational and administrative activities and to have overall responsibility for the school's performance. The post is a full-time position with a salary of £13,000 per annum. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, Trinity R.C. High School, Morrington Road, Woodside, Redbridge, Essex. 1318 50X. (34586)

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TRINITY R.C. HIGH SCHOOL
Morrington Road, Woodside, Redbridge, Essex. 1318 50X
Tel: 01-504 9756
Head: P.C.D. Doherty, M.A., D.Phil.
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REDBRIDGE
LONDON BOROUGH OF REDBRIDGE
TRINITY R.C. HIGH SCHOOL
Morrington Road, Woodside, Redbridge, Essex. 1318

SECONDARY MATHS

continued

SURREY
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
EDUCATION OFFICE
Lower Road, Epsingham KT3 4
15.2.85 (11-18 mixed)
Required for September
1985. Teaching Mathematics
(Scale 1) to level 10
with sound knowledge of
modern languages. Post
must be held by 1st March.
Headmaster, (33747) 133482

WARWICKSHIRE

POLESWORTH SCHOOL
Dordon Road, Dordon
Tamworth, Staffs. B78
1Q7
Required as soon as
possible to take responsibility
for the school's mathematics
department. This is a
challenging post due to the
school's size and the
diversity of the pupils.
The successful candidate
will be responsible for the
department's development
and for the training of
other staff. Applications
should be sent to the
Headmaster, (33747) 133482

WORCESTERSHIRE
WALVERN GIRLS' COLLEGE
Walvern, Worcs. B95 9JL
Independent Boarding School
for 500 girls with a Sixth
Form. Mathematics
Department. Graduate
Mathematics teacher for
September 1985 to join a
department of 12. The school
offers a wide range of
facilities and a high standard
of teaching. Applications
should be sent to the
Headmaster, (33747) 133482

Modern Languages

Heads of Department

DEVON

Place see displayed advertisement on page 55.
(00088) 133618

CORNWALL EDUCATION COMMITTEE

There is a Removal Expenses Scheme for teachers taking up permanent appointments from outside the County.

PRIMARY HEADSHIPS

Applications are invited from suitably qualified teachers for posts of Headteacher at the following schools:

Germoe C. P. Junior & Infant School, Germoe Lane, Germoe Cross Roads, Penzance, Cornwall, TR20 9QY.

Group No. 2, Available from 1st May, 1985, Closing Date 8th March, 1985.

Mount Charles C. P. Junior & Infant School, Wesley Place, Mountcharles, St Austell, Cornwall, PL25 4QB.

Group No. 8, Available from 1st May, 1985, Closing Date 8th March, 1985.

Paro Eglos C. P. Junior & Infant School, Paro Eglos, Helston, Cornwall, TR13 8UP.

Group No. 6, Available from 1st May, 1985, Closing Date 8th March, 1985.

Application forms and further details are available on receipt of SAE (enclosed) from The Secretary For Education (Schools Section), County Hall, Truro, Cornwall, TR1 3BA. (Please indicate which post(s) is (are) being applied for.)

PRIMARY SCHOOL

Millbrook V. A. C. of E Junior & Infant School, Millbrook Hill, Millbrook, Nr. Torpoint, Cornwall.

Group No. Four, Available From 23.4.85 or as soon as possible.

Scale teacher required for General subjects, for Juniors. Ability to offer P.E. and Games, an interest in resources and Library an advantage. There is the possibility of a Scale two post for a suitable candidate.

Application form and further details from the District Education Office, Graylands, Dean Street, Liskeard. On receipt of SAE. Returnable to the Headteacher at the school.

COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL

Cape Cornwall School, Cape, Cornwall Road, St. Just, Cornwall. Group No. 8, No. On Roll 495.

Head of Music: Scale 2

Required from April, 1985, or September, 1985, to teach all pupils in the Lower School and examination groups in the 4th and 5th year. There is a school orchestra, a stage band, choir and several small groups who perform a high quality of both traditional and modern music.

There are excellent resources both in accommodation, electronic and traditional equipment and musical support. A particular interest in modern popular music is desirable.

Application form/further details from the Headteacher on receipt of SAE.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL
Secondary Heads of Department
English
(03960) 133618

Scale 2 Posts and above

BRADFORD
CITY OF BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN COUNCIL
CITY MANOR SCHOOL
1985. An experienced and
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Languages to take overall
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DORSET
THE ROYAL MANOR
SCHOOL
11-18 Comprehensive: 600
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Required for September 1985
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL
Secondary Heads of Department
English
(03960) 133618

Scale 2 Posts and above

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LIVERPOOL

COUNTY COUNCIL
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English
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WILTSHIRE

COUNTY COUNCIL
Secondary Heads of Department
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City of Birmingham Education Department



DEVELOPING SERVICE FOR SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS IN BIRMINGHAM
The following vacancies represent opportunities for teachers eager to play an active part in a new, developing service in a City noted for its provision for special educational needs.

A. HEADTEACHER GROUP 5(S)

East Birmingham Hospital School, Telford Road, Birmingham B9 6BT
(Telephone 021-773 4511 ext 4404)
This large hospital school provides education for pupils of all ages and a varied cross of ability. Candidates should have experience of senior management within schools and an up to date knowledge of curriculum development. Experience of leading in hospital schools and/or advanced qualification in special educational needs study would be advantageous.
Application forms available from The Chief Education Officer, West Area, Schools Division, City of Birmingham Education Department, Magdalen Street, Birmingham, B1 2HU.

B. NEW DEVELOPMENTS

Senior Teacher

Secondary Curriculum Resources Unit

Senior Teacher in newly built unit opening in September 1985 to serve pupils from three special schools whose hearing, visual (moderate or physical) disabilities confine them to the special school.
Purpose designed specialist facilities will cover a wide cross section of the normal secondary school curriculum. A team of four teachers will be responsible for the unit and a small group of specialist resources will be available to support the unit. The unit will be expected to have the curriculum and facilities to meet the needs of the unit.

Application forms and further details from the Headteacher, Wilson Street School, 21-23 Wilson Street, Birmingham, B3 7AT enclosing S.A. Telephone 021-625 4478.

2. Scale 2 + Special Schools Allowance

(a) Support Teacher in Newly Impaired Nursery Aged Children
Two vacancies based initially in:

(1) Nursery (Nursery School), Laybourn Road, Rednal, Birmingham B46 9PB
(2) Kingsley Junior School (Nursery Class) Cranborne Road, Birmingham B44 0BR
(Telephone 021-773 3877)

Headteacher, Nursery School, Laybourn Road, Rednal, Birmingham B46 9PB
Headteacher, Kingsley Junior School, Cranborne Road, Birmingham B44 0BR

Initially the posts will be responsible for visually impaired nursery aged children. Qualified and/or experienced teachers of the visually handicapped preferred but experienced Nursery Teachers may apply.

Application forms and further details from Head of Visiting Teacher Services, Varsity House, 45-47, Station Road, Birmingham B1 1AA enclosing S.A.

(b) Teacher of nursery aged children with speech and language difficulties
Special Infant School, Pagnel Road, Birmingham B26 8TD. Telephone 021-427 3216

A teacher with sound knowledge of language development to be responsible for the education of a group of eleven nursery aged children with speech and language difficulties. Application forms and further details from the Headteacher of the school enclosing S.A. Telephone 021-427 3216.

CLOSING DATE 1 MARCH 1985.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER (10350)

BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL

DIRECTOR

Special Education Resource Information Service
Salary scale equivalent to Headteacher
Group 7 £13,686-£14,975
Required for Easter 1985

The Director heads a small city-wide service concerned with

children and their parents, adults with handicaps and all those who work with them including teachers.

The service was first established during 1980 as a response to the

Warrack Report in conjunction with the Health Authorities and the

Special Services Department.

Applicants should have a good knowledge of special education and

other areas of education, be wholly committed to working with

parents, handicapped people, and have the energy and initiative to

continue to develop a service that works closely with other services

implementing the Committee's Policy on Equal Opportunities.

Further particulars and application forms available from the Chief

Education Officer, Education Personnel Office, Crown Square,

Manchester M60 3BP quoting Ref. E76.

Telephone No. 061-234 7033 or 7035. Closing date 1 March 1985.

MANCHESTER City Council

Manchester City Council is an Equal Opportunity Employer,

and positively welcomes applications from women and men,

regardless of their racial, ethnic or national origin, disability,

age, sexuality, responsibilities for dependents. (10350)

BEXLEY LONDON BOROUGH

Westbrooke School,
Welling.
Group 4(S).

HEAD TEACHER

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced teachers for the post of Head Teacher for this purpose-built Day School for up to 80 Primary aged children behavioural or emotional difficulties. Appointment to commence 1st September 1985.

Application forms and further details available from Chief Education Officer for Schools (T.5), Town Hall, Crayford, Kent, DA1 4EN (enclosing foolscap S.A.) to whom they should be returned by Monday, 11th March. (10627)

SECONDARY OTHER THAN BY SUBJECT continued

HAVERING

LONDON BOROUGH OF
HAVERING
REDFORD PARK SCHOOL
Redford Park, Romford
RM7 7JL
Tel: Ingershoe 71331
(Roll 356 Mixed)
Headteacher: R.J. Bracken.
Required for April 1985, for one term, a temporary teacher, Scale 1, of General Subjects (mainly English/Mathematics to lower and middle year groups). 18 age. Letters of application enclosing full curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster. (34528) 135622

LONDON

Inner London Education Authority
ST. ALDYBURY COLLEGE
30 Haverley Lane, Highbury, N. 5
The above school is a Roman Catholic Voluntary Aided Secondary School for 1,000 boys in the age range 11-18.
Required from end of February to July 1985:
1. Support Teacher of Biology to O Level, some Chemistry and General Science.
2. Art Teacher specialising in fabric printing to CSE and O Level and some general Art.
Applications to the Headmaster should be sent to the Headmaster, St. Aldbury College, 30 Haverley Lane, Highbury, N. 5. Further details of these two vacancies giving full details of experience and the names and addresses of two referees. (34521) 135622

Sixth Form and Tertiary Colleges

Heads of Department

HAMPSHIRE

ITCHEN COLLEGE

Middle Road, Southampton SO14 1JF
(16-19 Open Access)
Required September - Scale 4
Director of Music. The College has a strong musical tradition with good A Level sets (including London Double A).
Interest required in youth music-making of all kinds including brass band, jazz, rock, etc.
Applicants should be recommended by S.A. to Principal.
Applications by letter with C.V. and names of two educational referees. 140018 (34585)

Scale 2 Posts and above

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN

KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE

Lower High Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 1TD
(GROUP 1S)
Required Summer Term 1985
TEACHER OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY (Scale 2) both to A Level.
Further details from the Principal to whom applications should be sent as soon as possible. (34504) 140080

STAFFORDSHIRE

THE RAINBOW SCHOOL

Turnstall Road, Salford, Greater Manchester M6 7AN
HEADTEACHER (Scale 4)
Required for September 1985 for this all age school. The school has a Learning Difficulties Unit. The post is a full time post within special education. The post holder should have a minimum of 5 years experience in special education. Applications are sought from teachers who are currently employed in special education. Applications should be sent to the Headmaster, The Rainbow School, Turnstall Road, Salford, Greater Manchester M6 7AN. Closing date 1st March 1985. (34567) 160018

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MANDER PORTMAN WOODWARD

Independent sixth-form College in Central London and Birmingham - 650 students

HAVERING

REDFORD PARK SCHOOL

Redford Park, Romford RM7 7JL
Tel: Ingershoe 71331
(Roll 356 Mixed)
Headteacher: R.J. Bracken.
Required for April 1985, for one term, a temporary teacher, Scale 1, of General Subjects (mainly English/Mathematics to lower and middle year groups). 18 age. Letters of application enclosing full curriculum vitae and the names of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster. (34528) 135622

LONDON

Inner London Education Authority

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30 Haverley Lane, Highbury, N. 5
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Required from end of February to July 1985:
1. Support Teacher of Biology to O Level, some Chemistry and General Science.
2. Art Teacher specialising in fabric printing to CSE and O Level and some general Art.
Applications to the Headmaster should be sent to the Headmaster, St. Aldbury College, 30 Haverley Lane, Highbury, N. 5. Further details of these two vacancies giving full details of experience and the names and addresses of two referees. (34521) 135622

Scale 2 Posts and above

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN

KING EDWARD VI COLLEGE

Lower High Street, Stourbridge, West Midlands DY8 1TD
(GROUP 1S)
Required Summer Term 1985
TEACHER OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY (Scale 2) both to A Level.
Further details from the Principal to whom applications should be sent as soon as possible. (34504) 140080

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STAFFORDSHIRE

THE RAINBOW SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT EDUCATION continued

By Subject Classification

Art and Design

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

ELSTREE SCHOOL
Woolhampton, nr. Reading
Requires a full-time teacher of Art.
Please see main advertisement under Independent schools. Art and Design. (33535) 181224

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER MALVERN COLLEGE
See under display advertisement under Independent schools other than facts. (33538) 181224

Careers

Heads of Department

SURREY
GUILDFORD HIGH SCHOOL
(Ch. School Company Ltd.)
London Road, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1SA
Tel: (0432) 34440
HEAD OF CAREERS required for September 1985 on the retirement of the present holder. This is a full-time post with a strong academic tradition and the role of the Head of Careers is an important one within the school. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33417) 181418

Classics

Heads of Department

CRYDON
THE OLD PALACE SCHOOL
(Independent Day School 750 girls)
Required for one term (summer 1985) Honorary Graduate to teach Classics to O and A level.
Applications with the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, The Old Palace School, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1AX. (41427)

Other Assistants

CRYDON
THE OLD PALACE SCHOOL
(Independent Day School 750 girls)
Required for one term (summer 1985) Honorary Graduate to teach Classics to O and A level.
Applications with the names and addresses of two referees should be sent to the Headmaster, The Old Palace School, Croydon, Surrey CR0 1AX. (41427)

MALVERN COLLEGE ART DEPARTMENT

1. Required for SEPTEMBER 1985, a DIRECTOR OF ART to lead a well established and thriving Art Department with its own purpose built facilities.
2. Required for SEPTEMBER 1985, an ART TEACHER specialising in one or more of Ceramics, Sculpture and three dimensional design, to teach throughout the school up to GCE and Art College Entrance level. For the right applicant this post may be combined with that of Director of Art.

School accommodation may be available. Salary above Burnham.

Applications for either or both of the above posts, together with curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of two referees, should be sent to the Headmaster, Malvern College, Malvern, Worcestershire WR14 3DF from whom further details may be obtained. (11092)

BEDFORD

BEDFORD MODERN SCHOOL

Independent: H.M.C.
1150 boys aged 7-18 years

Required for September 1985 a Graduate to teach Latin and Classical civilisation to Advanced Level. The successful candidate may be required to offer a second teaching subject, preferably English, a Modern Language or Religious Education. Help with extra-curricular activities, especially Rugby, Cricket or use of Edinburgh Award Scheme will be an advantage.

Salary - Burnham Scale 1 or 11 according to qualifications and experience. Further details may be obtained from the Headmaster, Bedford Modern School, Bedford MK41 7NT to whom applications (with curriculum vitae and names of two referees, (33535) 181224

HERTFORDSHIRE

ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOL
Morpeth Road, Bishopton, Herts. SG1 1JH
Tel: 01-950 1548
Required for September 1985 a Graduate to share the Head of Classics to teach Greek and Classical Civilisation. A recently qualified graduate or an experienced teacher will be considered for the post.

Apply in writing to the Head with curriculum vitae and names of two referees. (34448) 181224

Computer Studies

Other Assistants

BARNET
ST. MARTHA'S CONVENT
Barnet, Herts.
Required in September, teacher of Computer Studies to and A Levels.
Apply with curriculum vitae and names of two referees to the Headmaster, St. Martha's Convent, Camlet Way, Barnet, Herts. (34446) 181224

CHANNEL ISLANDS

THE LADIES' COLLEGE
Guernsey
Required for September 1985 a Graduate to teach Latin and Greek to O and A level. The person appointed will be responsible for the teaching of Latin and Greek to O and A level and will also be responsible for the teaching of Latin and Greek to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33417) 181418

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

READING BLUE COAT SCHOOL

Sunning-on-Thames, Berks. RG4 0BU

11-18 Day & Boarding
Teacher required September 1985 for Computer Studies. Department set up in 1983 is expanding so opportunities exist for a second teaching subject, preferably English, a Modern Language or Religious Education. Help with extra-curricular activities, especially Rugby, Cricket or use of Edinburgh Award Scheme will be an advantage.

Salary - Burnham Scale 1 or 11 according to qualifications and experience. Further details may be obtained from the Headmaster, Reading Blue Coat School, Sunning-on-Thames, Berks. RG4 0BU. (33535) 181224

SUSSEX

TEACHER I/C COMPUTING
An experienced graduate is required for September 1985 or earlier. Davine's College, Brighton, is a large, independent day school with 270 pupils. The computing department is expanding and the holder will be responsible for the teaching of Computing to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Craft, Design & Technology

Heads of Department

EAST SUSSEX
MAYFIELD COLLEGE
Experienced teacher, for East Sussex, to teach Design and Technology to O and A Levels. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33417) 181418

Other Assistants

HERTFORDSHIRE

ST. ALBANS SCHOOL
(HMC Sixth Form 200)
Required in September, a C.D.T. specialist to share in the work of the existing Technical Department. Salary according to qualifications and experience.

Further details from the Headmaster, St. Albans School, Abbey Gate, St. Albans, Herts. AL1 1AB. Applications should be sent with a C.V. and the names of two referees. (34461) 181224

Economics & Business Studies

Heads of Department

SURREY

ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL

Guilford
(HMC - 700 day boys 11 to 18 - 200 in 6th Form)
Required in September a Graduate to teach Economics to A Level and University Entrance. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

CORNWALL
TRURO SCHOOL
(H.M.C. Independent Day & Boarding, 830 boys, 230 girls)
Required for SEPTEMBER 1985 a Graduate to teach Economics in the Sixth Form. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

YORK
POCKLINGTON SCHOOL
H.M.C. 280 Boarders 450 Day Boys (Girls in Sixth Form and Boarding, 830 boys, 230 girls)
Required for September 1985 a Graduate to teach Economics to A and University levels. A willingness to teach in the total life of the school, including the coaching of games, is important. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

English

Other Assistants

BERKSHIRE

ST. GEORGE'S SCHOOL
Ascot, Berks. RG5 1DZ
Girls' Independent (11-18 years)
G.S.A. member
Required for September 1985 a Junior English teacher to teach English to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

ESSEX

NEW HALL SCHOOL
Boreham, Chelmsford CMS
(834 Girls on roll - 140 in Sixth Form)
A teacher of ECONOMICS (Scale 1) is required for September. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

WYCOMBE HIGH SCHOOL
Wokingham, Bucks.
Required for September 1985 a Graduate to teach English to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

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LONDON NW7

MILL HILL SCHOOL
Requires a graduate to teach ECONOMICS from September 1985. The post of Head of Department will be available from 1986 for a suitably qualified person. An ability to teach Business Studies will be an added recommendation. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of Economics to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

SURREY

ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL
Brayley, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1JH
Church of England
Required for April or September 1985 a Graduate to teach Economics to A Level and University Entrance. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

SURREY

ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL
Brayley, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1JH
Church of England
Required for April or September 1985 a Graduate to teach Economics to A Level and University Entrance. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

Other Assistants

SURREY

ST. CATHARINE'S SCHOOL
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Church of England
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BRISTOL CATHOLIC COLLEGE
College St, Bristol
Tel: 98178
(H.M.C. ex-Director of Grammar Schools)
Teacher required September 1985 to teach English to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

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INDEPENDENT EDUCATION continued

HAMPSHIRE

NORTH FORELAND
Sherfield-on-Loddon, nr. Basingstoke RG8 0HT
(160 girls, all boarders)
Seeking graduate teacher for September 1985. Preference will be given to candidates with experience of teaching History to junior forms. Resident post available. Letters of application and curriculum vitae should be sent to the Headmaster, North Foreland School, Sherfield-on-Loddon, nr. Basingstoke RG8 0HT. (16458) 182424

Other Assistants

LEEDS

LEEDS GRAMMAR
Moorland Road, Leeds LS6 1AN
Independent Day School (11-18)
Required for September 1985 a Graduate to teach English to O and A level. The post is part-time and is held on a part-time basis. The holder will be responsible for the teaching and/or careers work. Please apply by letter to the Headmaster, enclosing curriculum vitae and the names of two referees. (33535) 181224

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BERMUDA SALTUS GRAMMAR SCHOOL

An independent grammar school for boys, with separate Junior and Preparatory Departments following British curricula. After G.C.E. 'O' levels, most students go on to Senior Year, a preparatory class for U.S. and Canadian universities.

TEACHER REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER, 1985 JUNIOR SCHOOL

Form Teacher for boys at J5 level (10 years of age) with special responsibility for P.E. throughout the school (8-12 years of age). Applicants should be experienced in the traditional teaching of English and in the traditional and modern approach to Mathematics and be prepared to interchange and teach in other classes if necessary.

It is anticipated that the successful applicant will contribute to the extra-curricular activities scheme and play a full part in the corporate life of the school.

Reply as soon as possible to the Headmaster, Saltus Grammar School, Pembroke, Bermuda, giving full particulars of age, marital status and children (applications from teachers with more than two dependent children cannot be considered due to an immigration regulation), education, training, qualifications, experience, and, if possible, telephone number. Enclose a photograph, two testimonials, (a copy of a marriage certificate, if appropriate), and the addresses of two professional referees to whom confidential application may be made. Detailed particulars of this post, the school, and living in Bermuda will be sent to those short listed, who will be interviewed in London in mid March.

Salary: B.Ed. Degree or Degree plus P.G.C.E.

\$21,085-\$27,452

\$21,085-\$27,452

Hons. Degree plus P.G.C.E.

The above salary scales will be reviewed in September. Fully furnished accommodation can be provided at a reasonable rent.

(0638)

COLOMBIA - SOUTH AMERICA COLEGIO ANGLO COLOMBIANO - BOGOTA COLEGIO COLOMBO BRITANICO - CALI

Both founded in 1956, with initial and continuing help of the British Council, require for September 1985.

Colegio Anglo Colombiano, Bogotá. Headmaster Augusto Franco, Ph.D. Secondary Section

- Two teachers of Mathematics, up to International Baccalaureate level.
- Two teachers of English, up to International Baccalaureate level.

Primary Section

- Four teachers to cover 7-11 age range. Experience in reading, maths, science or music an advantage.

Colegio Colombo Británico, Cali. Headmaster John P. Cushman, M.A. (Ed)

- Head of Language Faculty. Administrative and teaching English language/literature to International Baccalaureate level.
- Teacher of English, E.F.L. and literature to International Baccalaureate level.
- Head of Science Faculty. Administrative/teaching Chemistry International Baccalaureate level and Junior Biology.
- Teacher of Chemistry to I.B. level, with Junior Biology or Maths.

Primary Section

- Three teachers to cover 7-11 age range. Experience in Music/EFL an advantage.

Salary conditions, in peso equivalent, of \$8,000 - £12,000 p.a., free return passages, terminal gratuity, two year contract renewable.

For further information and application forms, contact Mrs. Dolis Plummer C/o Colombian Embassy Flat 30-34 Mans Crescent, London SW11. Tel: 01-899 9177 Interviews in London in March.

(1161)

ASCENSION ISLAND SCHOOL

The Ascension Island School comprises around 140 pupils between the ages of 4 and 15. The following staff are required in September 1985:

A Reception Teacher with Nursery School experience to take a class of twenty 4-6 year olds. The successful candidate will also be able to offer music and/or swimming. (Ref. 2083/TRS)

A Junior Teacher to take a class of twenty-five 10 and 11 year olds, and to teach games and swimming throughout the Primary School. Experience in introducing Computer Studies would be an advantage. Preference will be given to candidates who are, in addition, willing to run Scouting/Guiding or Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme activities. (Ref. 2084/TRS)

Contracts will be for one year for single or unaccompanied staff; two years for married accompanied staff. Tax-free salary in the range £6,991 - £11,312 p.a. plus variable overseas allowances; free furnished accommodation.

For further particulars and application form please write (quoting appropriate ref. and enclosing s.a.e.): to BBC Appointments, London, W1A 1AA, or Tel. 01-927 5799.

Completed application forms must be returned by Friday, 8th March 1985. Interviews will be held in London.

We are an equal opportunities employer

BBC

YOUTH & COMMUNITY continued

LONDON

Inner London Education Authority
YOUTH WORKERS
INC salaries and conditions.
Salary scale: £5,855 - £9,585
Unqualified/Trainee: £6,855 - £7,750

Appointments will be to the service of the Authority, with accommodation for posts 2, 3, and 4.

Assistant may be given towards household removal expenses at £1,000 p.a.

Closing date 1 March 1985

1. ISLINGTON PROJECT
The Old Laundry, Montem House, Hornsey Road N7

Scale 2
Two detached youth worker posts, which form part of an existing team of ten workers who work throughout the borough either with various communities or in specific geographic locations.

The priority for the first post is to work with groups in the vicinity of the Ball's Pond Road.

The second is to work in the Bracknock and Hilldrop area. The successful applicant will be expected to make contact with young people and to liaise with existing community groups in their area.

Experience in youth work, particularly of work in an inner urban, multi-racial setting would be an advantage.

Further details from: Steve Rice at the Project 281 231.

Details and forms from: Islington Area Youth Office, White Lion Street, N1 9PW (Tel. 276 1805)

2. LEWISHAM WAY CENTRE
Scale 2

Assistant Youth Worker required for this Centre which is concerned with creating a programme of work with young people in the area.

Details and forms from: Lewisham Youth Office, Capital House, 47 Rushey Cottages, SE6. Tel: 687 7031.

3. ST JOHN'S YOUTH CLUB
30 Duncan Terrace, N1

Scale 2
Experienced Assistant Youth Worker required for this Multi-Racial Club situated near the Angel, Islington which has been active in youth work for over 10 years. As well as a full evening programme, there is an extensive day time project, which involves working with young people on issues surrounding unemployment.

Importance is also placed on the development of the individual and the club's work is aimed at the successful integration of the young people who will be expected to work as a member of staff with the senior worker and part-time staff.

Details and forms from: Islington Youth Office, White Lion Street, N1

4. WESTMINSTER GIRLS' PROJECT
20 Southwark Street, SW1

Scale 2
Youth worker required to assist in the running of the project which involves working with young people in West London. Some experience in this type of work necessary. The successful candidate will be expected to work in an anti-racist and anti-sexist way.

Applications from black women are particularly welcome.

Details and forms from: Westminster Youth Office, 11 Westminster Grove, London W6

5. LEA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER. (34158) 440000

Overseas Appointments

ABU DHABI U.A.E.

ABU RABEEN SCHOOL
Abu Dhabi, U.A.E.

HEAD OF DEPARTMENT
FOR NURSERY

Required for September 1985 to assume responsibility for 400 multi-national children in an established Nursery for children aged between two years and a half and three years and a half on entry.

Applications invited from experienced teachers with at least five years teaching experience and having held a post of responsibility in a Nursery/Infant school.

Outlets include general organisation, planning, and coordinating with the Headteacher and Infant School.

Candidates should be flexible, adaptable and calm with a sense of humour.

Contract: Three years initially, tax free salary, with a return air fare, return air fare, single air conditioned accommodation.

Application by hand written letter with full C.V. names of two confidential referees, two references and a photograph.

Interviews in March in London. Salary: £30,000 p.a. plus air fare, gratuity after two years.

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Interviews in March in London. Salary: £30,000 p.a. plus air fare, gratuity after two years.

THE SANDFORD ENGLISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL ADDIS ABABA ETHIOPIA

This independent, multi-national school requires teaching staff for the 1985-86 session as detailed below.

The school has a student complement of approx. 700 students between the ages of 4 and 18 years in Junior and Senior divisions. English based education is provided and the school is a centre for London University GCE examinations as well as local ones.

Applications are invited from well qualified teachers with experience in the following fields, to commence duties with effect from 1st September 1985.

INFANT DIVISION

Head of Division: Class Teachers

JUNIOR DIVISION

Head of Division: Class Teachers

SENIOR DIVISION

French: Girls Sport, English, Art, Physical Science.

Initial contracts are for 2 years and are renewable.

Salaries are in the scale 21,420 - 33,698 Ethiopian Birr gross per annum. The present (January 1985) exchange rate is 2.31 Birr equals one (£1) pound sterling. The Head Division posts also carry a responsibility allowance of 6,100 Ethiopian Birr p.a.

Air transportation with baggage allowance is provided at beginning and end of contract and a return passage is provided to Kenya at mid contract for leave. Full medical accommodation is provided and medical expenses, excluding dental treatment, within Ethiopia are paid by the school. Conditions could be beneficial to married couples who both teach.

Letters of applications, with detailed curriculum vitae including a contact telephone number and the names and addresses of three referees should be sent to the Headmaster, P.O. Box 30068 MA, ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, by AIR MAIL to arrive not later than 27th MARCH 1985.

Interviews will be held in UK in APRIL 1985.

(1108)

DUBAI THE RASHID SCHOOL PACES have been instructed to recruit

2 JUNIOR TEACHERS (Female)

for the preparatory department of this girls' school

We are looking for Teachers of excellence who speak English language clearly and well, with proven experience teaching top juniors in either an independent school or a first class junior school in the U.K. or overseas. At current rates, the salary will be not less than £15,000 p.a. tax free, with luxury free accommodation, return air fare, medical insurance etc. Candidates must be single and British Trained Graduates, and preference will be given to any candidate with a knowledge of Arabic for one of the posts. Experience of teaching English as a second language an advantage. Classes are not expected to exceed 12 girls. The school is housed in purpose built accommodation, and has every modern facility.

If you feel you meet the exacting requirements of the posts please send SAE for application form and full details to: Dept. R., PACES, 6b Eccleston Gardens, Helens, WA10 3BN.

Closing date: 1 March 1985.

Preliminary interviews in the U.K. in March.

(1108)

THE UNIVERSITY OF OSNABRÜCK Department Vechta

Invites applications for a position of

LEKTOR IN ENGLISH

(Pay scale: BAT Ila/III)

beginning Sep. 1st 1985

Qualifications

Main Duties:

Length of contract:

Application deadline:

Applications together with a detailed curriculum vitae and copies of:

Dekan des Fachbereichs 12 (Sprachen, Kultur, Musik, Literatur) Universität Osnabrück, Abteilung Vechta, Postfach 1304, 4900 Vechta, W. Germany

(33665) 460000

KUWAIT

For September 1985. Expanding British curriculum school requires experienced teachers. Single teachers and married couples with children.

Terms: Tax free salary, two year contract, fully furnished accommodation, gratuity, annual leave, school passage.

Send curriculum vitae, recent photograph and testimonials to: P.O. Box 1304, Vechta, W. Germany.

(33665) 460000

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE SERVICE CHILDREN'S EDUCATION AUTHORITY AREA EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS

Vacancies in the Federal Republic of Germany

The Ministry of Defence invites applications from fully qualified Educational Psychologists with at least 2 years experience to fill new posts located at Hannover and Bückeburg in West Germany as soon as possible. The successful candidates will be members of a team comprising 6 Area Educational Psychologists and a Principal who together serve a pre-school population of 20,000 and a school population of some 28,000 children aged 4 to 18. Close links are maintained with Services medical specialists. Applicants should have an Honours Degree in Psychology, teaching experience and postgraduate training in educational psychology. An ability to drive is essential.

SUPERANNUATION. The appointment is supernumerary under the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme which is non-contributory. Transfer arrangements between this and most other superannuation schemes exist. SALARY. The salary is in accordance with the current Soubury scale abated by 4% to take account of the non-contributory superannuation scheme. In addition the abated London Allowance of £998 per annum is payable. FOREIGN SERVICE ALLOWANCE. A tax free allowance is payable. DURATION OF ENGAGEMENT. Initially for a period of 3 years renewable by mutual consent. All applicants should be normally resident in the United Kingdom.

The Civil Service is an equal opportunities employer.

Requests for an application form and further details about these posts should be made to:

Ministry of Defence
CM(8) 143 Room 343
Leam House, Theobalds Road
London WC1X 8RY.

The closing date for completed application forms is Monday 25 March 1985.

(6388)

KENYA

Independent school with 250 multi-racial pupils, mostly expatriates aged 4-18, requires teachers for the following vacancies in September 1985.

English: 'A' Level and Latin 'O' Level Greek and Ancient History.

Mathematics: 'A' Level and Physics 'O' Level.

Geography: 'A' Level.

Candidates - male or female, should have an Honours Degree in their teaching subject and a minimum 3 years teaching experience. They should also have studied Latin at school.

SALARY RANGE: £24,420 p.a. to £31,140 p.a. plus annual gratuity of £1,400 plus annual gratuity.

CONTRACTS - 3 years initially with paid travel, housing, school fees, children's education and medical cover.

Please apply urgently to: Gabbitts-Thring Services, 6, 7 & 8 Sackville Street, London W1X 2BR. Tel: 01-734 0161.

Previous applicants need not re-apply. 460000

PAKISTAN

The Headmaster of the International Baccalaureate Organisation (IBO) will interview candidates for Science, Mathematics, English, History, and Counselling February 18th to 22nd 1985.

Applications may be made with the Principal, St. George's School, 1615 Clarendon, St. Helena, WA10 3BN.

(33866) 460000

SWITZERLAND

The Principal thanks the large number of teachers who responded to the advertisement and announces that the school is now open for applications.

A vacancy still exists for a Teacher of Art and History of the school. The Principal, St. George's School, 1615 Clarendon, St. Helena, WA10 3BN.

Write for details with full C.V. to: The Principal, St. George's School, 1615 Clarendon, St. Helena, WA10 3BN.

(33866) 460000

ACADEMIA BRITANICA CUSCATECA Santa Tecla

EL SALVADOR CENTRO AMERICA

Headmaster: Michael W. Cross, M.A.

This bilingual, coeducational day school of 950 students, which is a member of the International Baccalaureate Organisation, invites applications from appropriately qualified teachers for the following posts which will be vacant from September, 1985:

1. TEACHER OF ENGLISH (SENIOR SCHOOL)

2. TEACHER OF PHYSICS (SENIOR SCHOOL)

3. TEACHER FOR JUNIOR SCHOOL (7-11 AGE GROUP)

4. TEACHER FOR INFANTS SCHOOL (4-6 AGE GROUP)

Two-year contracts, renewable. Generous salary scale. Low rate of income tax; guaranteed remittance facility; free return air fares and generous baggage allowance; medical cover; superannuation scheme; end-of-contract bonus.

FURTHER PARTICULARS: Send stamped foolscap envelope to: P.M. Burns Esq., Brownhill House, Brownhill, Stroud, GL6 8AS.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS: SAT MARCH 16.

INTERVIEWS will be held in London on MARCH 26, 27, 28 with the Headmaster.

(0686)

THE TEACHER RECRUITMENT CENTRE for the COSTA DEL SOL

Apt. 228, Marbella, Málaga, Spain

The following are required for September 1985:

Kindergarten, Reception, Infant, Junior and Middle School teachers</

RAS AL-KHAIMAH ENGLISH SPEAKING SCHOOL UNITED ARAB EMIRATES REQUIRED FOR SEPTEMBER 1985 ONE INFANT TEACHER

The School was established in 1976 and has a small roll of children between the ages of 4½ - 11½ years. Our main subjects are British, European and Arab Expat. Expat.

A British type primary curriculum is followed and teachers also participate in afternoon activities. The infant teacher would be responsible for a class of 65 - 75 year olds. Only teachers with a minimum of two years infant experience will be considered. Preference will be given to candidates who can offer French or Music as an additional subject.

Salaries are Tax Free, An Overseas Allowance, Superannuation Benefits, Medical Insurance, and End of Contract Gratuity are offered.

Shared Rent Free Fully Furnished Accommodation is provided. Only single U.K. trained teachers need apply. Interviews will be held in London during March.

Please reply in your own handwriting with full curriculum vitae, include a recent photograph and the names of two referees to:

Mrs Irene Henderson, Headmistress, Ras Al-Khaimah English Speaking School, P.O. Box 975, Ras Al-Khaimah, United Arab Emirates. (8394)

CAPRICORNIA INSTITUTE

Rockhampton, Queensland, Australia

Mr Frank Schroder, Chairman
JAMES GOLDSTON
SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

will be in attendance at the Office of the Agent-General for Queensland, 392 and 393 The Strand, from Wednesday, 20 February to Monday, 25 February 1985.

Persons interested in discussing possible appointment as Lecturer in Electrical Engineering or Lecturer in Mechanical Engineering at Capricornia Institute are invited to make an appointment by contacting Alan Smith at the Office for the Agent-General, telephone 01-836 3224 and 1333.

A COLLEGE OF ADVANCED EDUCATION IN QUEENSLAND

County Inspector for Special Educational Needs Salary - Southbury H.T. Group 9/10 - £15,027 - £17,262

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of General County Inspector (Special Educational Needs). This post is one of a team of two specialist inspectors and the holder's responsibilities will lie mainly in the key area of special educational needs and provision in mainstream schools. An additional interest in the County's Support Schools for S.E.N. (Remedial) is also required. The holder will be responsible for the development of the County's Special Educational Needs Service. Staffordshire has a comprehensive but developing service for children with S.E.N., and the Authority is looking for a single and experienced educationalist to join a strong team working in this area of the County's service. Experience of advisory work would be an advantage but is not an essential requirement although evidence of wide and successful experience in schools is.

It is hoped that the successful candidate will be able to take up his or her duties on 1st September, 1985.

Inspector for Primary Education (with a special interest in Science) Salary - Southbury H.T. Group 8/9/10 - £13,953 - £17,262

Applications are invited from suitably qualified persons for the post of General County Inspector (Primary). Desiderata of interest are particularly sought from persons able to offer a special interest in the teaching of Science in Primary Schools. An additional interest in Primary School Mathematics would also be welcomed. Experience of advisory work would be an advantage but is not an essential requirement although evidence of wide and successful experience in schools is. The person appointed will be responsible for the development of the County's Primary Education Service throughout the County and will be required to share in the full range of duties undertaken by the County Inspectorate. It is hoped that the successful candidate will be able to take up his or her duties on 1st April, 1985.

Application form and further details for both the above posts available from the County Education Officer, Staffing Non-Teaching Section, County Education Office, Tipping St., Stafford ST16 2DH to be returned by 1st March 1985. (Enclose a.s.e. for reply). Trade Union membership desirable. (1007)

Staffordshire County Council

OVERSEAS POSTS

continued

MEXICO CITY

An International Co Educational School of 800 students, ages 4-18 seek the following teachers for September 1985.

1. Teacher of General Science (11 - 14 years).

2. Teacher of Geography to 'A' Level.

3. Teacher of Boys' P.E. (to teach throughout the School).

4. Teacher of Girls' P.E. (to teach throughout the School).

5. Teacher of Maths. to 'O' Level.

6. Head of Maths. Dept. to teach to 'A' Level.

7. Head of Physics Dept. to teach to 'A' Level.

8. Head of Computer Dept. to develop teaching of computer throughout the School.

9. Possibility of Head of Science Dept. for suitable candidate.

Applicants must be qualified teachers with at least 2 years experience. Childless couples will be given preference. Interviews will be held in London late March. The School offers 2 year contracts, annual flights, language allowance, housing subsidy, gratuity, salaries in the range \$21,000 pesos gross rate approx. 450 pesos to £ sterling).

Please send C.V. and recent photograph as soon as possible to: Mrs Susan Martinez, Principal, International Co Educational School, Avenida Potosi 355, 100, 46000 D.F. (34659)

PALESTINE

Send Community Service in Palestine needs qualified experienced EFL TEACHERS and ENGLISH TEACHERS to work with Palestinian students under Israeli occupation for 1 or 2 years.

Brief C.V. & large a.s.e. to: General, P.O. Box 25, March 1985. (34109) 480000

PORTUGAL: Language Agency requires experienced E.P.L. teachers - Write enclosing C.V./Photo, Box No. 285 00390, Rua do Rio de Janeiro, 10, 1000 Lisboa, Portugal. (33887) 460000

SPAIN

Spanish speaking teachers for infant, primary and secondary schools. Salary £10,000-12,000 p.a. plus benefits. Write to: Mrs. J. M. Lopez, P.O. Box 100, 28001 Madrid, Spain. (33887) 460000

SPAIN

Young graduates, TEFL experience and/or qualification, required for 1st September 1985 to 30th June 1986. Apply: Mrs. J. M. Lopez, P.O. Box 100, 28001 Madrid, Spain. (33887) 460000

SUDAN

The Sudanese Ministry of Education needs teachers of English for the Higher Secondary Schools. Applications from graduates accepted from degree holders and qualified teachers. A modest salary is paid at local rates.

Further information and application forms available from: The Sudanese Ministry of Education, P.O. Box 100, 28001 Madrid, Spain. (33887) 460000

KENYA

Physician A-level tutor. Small private school. Write to: Mrs. J. M. Lopez, P.O. Box 100, 28001 Madrid, Spain. (33887) 460000

LAS PALMAS

Primary teacher needed immediately. Write to: Mrs. J. M. Lopez, P.O. Box 100, 28001 Madrid, Spain. (33887) 460000

SUDAN

Headmaster/Headmistress. Write to: Mrs. J. M. Lopez, P.O. Box 100, 28001 Madrid, Spain. (33887) 460000

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TENERIFE

Teachers with at least three years experience required for September 1st 1985.

1. RECEPTION CLASS TEACHER for children in the age range 3 to 5 years. An advantage would be to teach in a bilingual environment.

2. GEOGRAPHY SPECIALIST to teach to 'A' Level. Will qualify and experienced man or woman are required for this challenging post in the Advisory and Inspection Service, which have also been involved in the promotion of the present post. Candidates should have a good knowledge of the subject and a programme of curriculum and professional development. Candidates are sought, from a broad base of relevant skills and understanding, can contribute fully to this comprehensive programme as it relates to the field of primary education. (Stamped addressed (11 x 22cm) envelope for this post please). Closing date 8 March.

Schools Psychological Service

Educational Psychologists (2 Posts)

Southbury Main Scale Points 6-22 £8,886-£14,978 p.a.

(Post 1) Baseline/Mansfield area (Post 2) Nottingham area

Fully qualified Educational Psychologists are required as soon as possible to join well established teams in the above areas. Post 1 will have a part time commitment to each of the Baseline and Mansfield areas based in offices in Worksop and Mansfield. Post 2 is required to join a well established team in the Nottingham area.

The successful candidates (male or female) will work under the general supervision of the Senior Educational Psychologist for each area and in collaboration with a team of Educational Psychologists, Remedial Teachers, Social Workers and Teacher Parent Counsellors. Applications from psychologists currently on post-graduate training courses will be considered. The post carries an essential car users allowance. Informal enquiries may be made to J. Groves, Principal Educational Psychologist, telephone Nottingham (0602) 823323 Ext. 3339, Closing date 1 March.

Relocation expenses where appropriate. For all posts application forms and further details are available from the Director of Education at County Hall. Please quote ref: A12745.

An Equal Opportunity Employer

Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall - West Bridgford Nottingham NG2 7QP

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Nottinghamshire County Council

ADMINISTRATION - LEA

continued

SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH FIELD STUDIES ASSOCIATION DIRECTOR

Applications are invited from well qualified and experienced man or woman are required for this challenging post in the Advisory and Inspection Service, which have also been involved in the promotion of the present post. Candidates should have a good knowledge of the subject and a programme of curriculum and professional development. Candidates are sought, from a broad base of relevant skills and understanding, can contribute fully to this comprehensive programme as it relates to the field of primary education. (Stamped addressed (11 x 22cm) envelope for this post please). Closing date 8 March.

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ADMINISTRATION - LEA

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Nottinghamshire County Council

County Hall

Educational Psychologists

WALSALL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGISTS (2 POSTS)

Walsall Educational Psychologists are required to join a well established team of eight educational psychologists and provide for the special educational needs of children and their families. The team provides a consultative and project work in schools and in the community. The range of individual case work includes: assessment, the provision of formal psychological advice and case work of therapeutic responses.

These are new posts created in response to general increases in service commitments, largely due to the 1981 Education Act. Educational psychologists are encouraged towards professional skill extension and innovation to develop specialist contributions and responsibilities within the service.

A casual user can allowance payable. Removal expenses and temporary accommodation may be available in approved cases.

Informal enquiries to Chris Reave, Principal Educational Psychologist Tel: 55551.

Application forms and further details from Personnel Department, PMSU, Civic Centre, Church Street, Walsall, WS1 1TE. Tel: Walsall 55551. Closing date: 28th March 1985.

Walsall is an Equal Opportunity Employer. (35865) 560000

QUALIFIED EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Required by National Children's Home for 6 hours per week at NCH, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

HAMPSHIRE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Applications are invited for the following vacancies in the Hampshire School Psychological Service. The Committee is seeking a qualified and experienced Educational Psychologist for post-experience training of teachers and other staff in the Hampshire School Psychological Service. The post is full-time, permanent, and based in the Southampton area. The successful candidate will be responsible for the training and development of staff in the use of psychological techniques in the classroom. The post holder will also be responsible for the provision of psychological advice and support to schools and individuals. The post holder will be required to undertake research and to contribute to the development of the service. The post holder will be required to undertake a variety of tasks, including: assessing individual children and groups; providing advice and support to schools and individuals; conducting research; and contributing to the development of the service. The post holder will be required to undertake a variety of tasks, including: assessing individual children and groups; providing advice and support to schools and individuals; conducting research; and contributing to the development of the service.

POST NUMBER CE 12 601. (Southbury Scale for Senior Educational Psychologists) £14,868 plus London Weighting £1,248. Applications should be sent to the Hampshire School Psychological Service, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000.

HILLINGDON EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

£12,868 plus London Weighting £1,248. Applications should be sent to the Hillingdon Educational Psychologist, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530

